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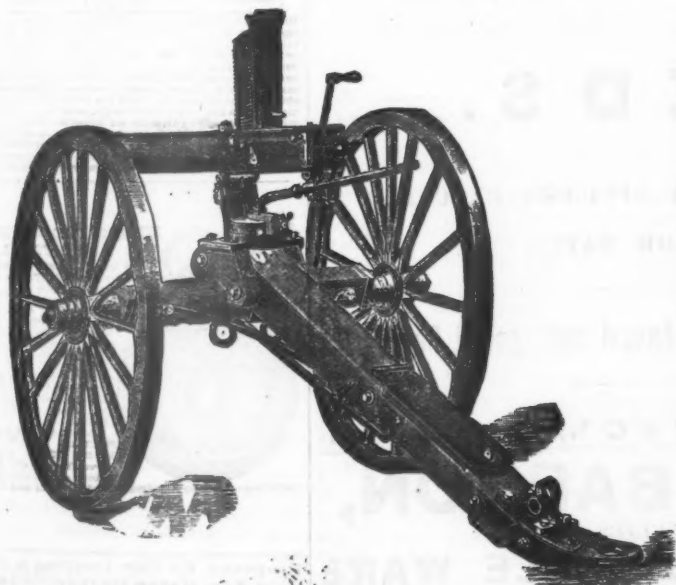
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THE TRIAL OF ARMOR PLATES AT SPEZZIA.

The recent trials of compound and steel armor plates at Spezzia are remarkable not only for the extraordinary results attained by the Schneider, or French, plate, but because of the fact that the supreme power of steel to resist the heaviest projectiles was demonstrated at the same locality that in 1876 witnessed the first adaptation of that metal to armor purposes. Since 1876 other nations have in a greater or less degree followed the Italians in trials of steel for the cuirasses of ships—notably Great Britain, which has generously patronized the efforts of two principal establishments in the production of steel-faced armor. In France Baron Schneider, whose extensive works at Creuzot are known world wide, has prosecuted experiments also in the direction commended by the later results at Spezzia, and through his persistent enterprise the Republic has won from English rivalry an industrial prize of which she may be justly proud.

In an elaborate paper on naval warfare, published in Paris early last year, from the pen of Rear Admiral Aube, the author, after summarizing the successive advances made in both armor and armament since the introduction of ironclad vessels, in evident despair of living long enough to see the victory claimed permanently by either the defensive or the attacking medium, records his sententious forecast as follows: "The solution thought to have been discovered when iron replaced wooden walls, recedes every day from those who seek it." In the paragraph immediately antecedent to this hopeless expression, the writer refers to the essays of Italy, which he calls "the latest arrival among European nations," towards the perfection of its marine defences, instancing the newest types of her construction, the *Italia* and *Leopardo*. Curiously enough, within a few months after the appearance of the Admiral's pamphlet the trial at Spezzia has developed the existence of an armor which, though it may not yet be strong enough to effect the solution so long waited for, still has suggested possibilities that were not before entertained.

We reprint in this week's issue, from the London *Engineer* of Nov. 24 and Dec. 1, the exhaustive report of the recent trials at Spezzia, prepared by a correspondent of that journal. This interesting account, though developing a characteristic bias in favor of the two English entries at the trial, is very thorough in its detail of the experiments, and, with its excellent illustrations, which we copy with the letter-press, will convey to the expert reader probably the most intelligent impression of the work of the commission and its remarkable outcome that is anywhere attainable. As a pendant to the account of our English contemporary, we add a translation of the briefer statement of the trial published in the *Journal des Debats*, of Paris, thus enabling the reader to compare for himself the French and the English versions of the results.

It will be seen that both the authorities we quote concede the superiority in resisting strength to the Schneider plate, the *Debats*'s correspondent claiming an unequivocal victory for his nation's representative, while the *Engineer*'s expert, though admitting the adverse fortunes of his countrymen, endeavors to lessen the significance of their disaster by explanations, which, if supported by fact, are far from being creditable to the foresight or consistent with the traditional ability of English competitors.

We do not doubt that our readers will coincide with us in the belief that the palm of excellence was won from Messrs. Cammell and Brown, the English competitors, by Schneider through a faithful adherence to the conditions of the trial. The plea of the *Engineer* that the two former competitors went into the contest unprepared, possessed of "little experience with regard to compound armor of great thickness," and unable to "offer their plates with confidence as fairly representing what they wished to manufacture," is un-English; and the fact that the representatives of both firms confessed judgment at the start by saying that their plates were not sufficiently rolled, does not give a favorable impression. So far as Cammell's experience in working heavy compound plates is concerned the *Journal* has for the last two or three years been copying from its English contemporaries highly flattering reports

of that firm's success in that very direction, and at the commencement of the *Engineer*'s account of the recent trial the statement is made that this same firm had been awarded the contract for the *Italia*'s armor. If people will enter upon a rivalry involving necessary qualifications of scientific knowledge and thorough experience, to which they do not pretend, conscious that they have not done even as well as they might in the way of preparation, the less said about their failure the better.

The material allegation of unfairness in the condition of the competition, brought forward by the *Engineer*, consists in an assumed advantage of the Schneider over the English plates in the system of bolts securing them to the backing, the French plate having twenty bolts, of a diameter of $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches, entering the steel rear face $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and each of the English plates having six bolts, of about the same diameter, entering the iron rear face $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches. If there was any specific condition prescribed by the Italian authorities that each plate should be secured to its backing by six bolts, the correspondent of the *Engineer* admits that this condition was waived. Consequently if there is to be any charge against the Creuzot representative, it must be for the possession of a more correct practical knowledge than his rivals. The reader will doubtless be shocked not only by the extraordinary number of bolts he used, but likewise by the singularly mysterious arrangement he made of them, "obviously adjusted to meet the case of the three blows specified." Notwithstanding, we are not quite prepared to accept the implication that, if the Schneider plate had been a mere cullender at the rear, entirely-filled up with bolts, it would not have incurred any damage at all. On the contrary, if the bolting system of the Schneider plate has superior merit, its designer deserves credit for it, as it is obviously an integer of strength which the Italian government may properly recognize in awarding future contracts. Should it occur, however, to the careful inspector of cut No. 7, illustrating the effects of the second impact on the French plate, that the crevices created in the face of the metal run with strange direction from the point struck towards the bolt holes, a different opinion of the Creuzot bolting may be inspired.

It would seem that Schneider's multiplication of bolts has not only disturbed the *Engineer*, but the conservative *Standard* as well, that journal observing that "unfortunately for scientific deductions the compound plate had not the same support from bolts as that of the steel, and the effect of this was seen clearly the other day when the steel plate was broken into several pieces, some of which, separated from all other support, were still held up by the bolts." This is manifestly an unfair exposition of facts. The *Standard* ignores the record, which shows that at the second shot the Brown plate was split into six fragments, the backing generally demoralized, plate bolts snapped and drawn, a considerable space knocked clear through, and the whole target *à la ru com'at*. The Cammell plate fared even worse, falling entirely in dismembered pieces to the ground. The Schneider suffered no more damage than the face cracks seen in Fig. 7, its "support" (the same as that of its rivals) being practically unaffected, and not a plate bolt started. Here are "scientific deductions" in abundance.

In summing up the results and inferences of the trial, the *Engineer*, very shortly after having congratulated Baron Schneider on the splendid properties of his armor plates, illustrates its own sincerity or its disbelief in the Creuzot manager's, by distinctly asserting that his plate was not produced for service, but for this particular trial. The trial was one in which a "prize-fighter" was pitted against a "sailor"—that is to say, we suppose, in which a special production, possible only at the cost of exceptional labor and painstaking, was matched against the every-day result of ordinary processes. If such were the fact it would be a very difficult one to prove. That it is not a fact is, however, quite evident. It is within our own knowledge that the steel worked at Creuzot is produced according to a formula that is in certain features a private property of the establishment, preserved, as is not infrequently the case in the control of large industries, as far as possible a secret. But we must bear in mind that in the preliminary paragraphs of his account our contemporary's correspondent, after thoroughly describing the two English plates, is able to impart but a partial idea of the Schneider plate, and distinctly confesses his ignorance of its precise character and the mode of its production. And yet, in spite of

this frank confession of ignorance at the commencement of his account of the Spezzia trials, he assumes at the close to know that the Schneider plate was specially prepared for the occasion.

The subjoined tabulated statement of the effect of the shots upon the three competing plates at Spezzia will be found valuable for reference along with the two reports which we publish. Its entire correctness can be relied upon, as it possesses all the authenticity of an official summary:

TRIALS AT SPEZZIA.

Summary of the comparative firing results between two Compound plates and one Schneider plate. Dimensions of plates, 10 ft. 10 in. x 8 ft. 7 in. x 18.9 in. Armstrong 100 ton gun, calibre .459 m. Weight of projectile, 908 kg., or about 2,000 lbs.

Shot.	Energy of shock in metre tons by the centimetre of circumference of the projectile.	Penetration.		
		Cammell	Brown	Schneider.
No. 1.	45 metre tons, exactly corresponding to the power necessary to pierce an iron plate of 490 m.m. thickness.	300 m.m. (estimated.)		
No. 2.	46 " "			210 m.m. (measured.)
No. 3.	45 " "		150 m.m. (estimated.)	
No. 4.	73 metre tons, corresponding to the power necessary to pierce an iron plate of 600 m.m. thickness.			900 m.m.
No. 5.	74 " "		250 m.m. (measured.)	Plate destroyed.
No. 6.	75 " "	260 m.m. (measured.)	Plate destroyed.	
Supplementary Test.				
No. 7.	75 " "			900 m.m. (measured.)
No. 8.	74 " "			330 m.m.

OBSERVATIONS.

Shot 1. Projectile broken. A section of the plate of four tons is separated by considerable cracks, yet remains in position. Numerous other fissures are visible in the steel. Backing a little damaged.

Shot 2. Projectile broken. No fissure of plate at all apparent. Backing not affected.

Shot 3. Projectile broken. Three long fissures one of them obviously traversing the stratum of iron. Backing more damaged than that of Cammell.

Shot 4. Projectile broken. Six light fissures crossing and proceeding regularly from the point of impact to the edge of the plate. All the pieces remaining exactly in place. Backing damaged slightly. Bolts unaffected.

Shot 5. Projectile broken. Plate broken into 5 large pieces all thrown to the ground in front, a single piece of 7 tons remaining suspended from a cracked bolt. Backing seriously damaged. Large entrance of water.

Shot 6. Projectile broken. Plate broken in 6 large pieces, all thrown to the ground. Backing entirely uncovered and damaged. Water entrance a little less than the preceding. In consequence of the thorough annihilation of the compound plates the comparative trials are declared ended. The committee of firing has recognized unanimously the incontestable superiority of the Schneider plate.

Shot 7. Trials. Projectile—Whitworth's compressed steel—very much set-up, its head becomes spherical. A fragment of the plate struck broken away and entering partially the backing. All the other fragments remain in place. The backing very little more damaged than Brown's after Shot No. 5.

Shot 8. Projectile—cast steel of Gregoirin—broken up, head very much set-up. Some fragments of the part of the plate struck pierce the backing, behind which portions of the projectile fall. The upper part of the backing destroyed, two thirds of it remaining covered by the parts of the plate still in position. No bolt broken. The fracture shows a very fine grain of the metal.

The practical bearing of the remarkable results with the steel armor, in the November trials, can only be estimated with fairness in close connection with the incidents of modern naval warfare. Even after its fourth shot the foregoing summary shows that the lower two-thirds of the Schneider plate remained in position, and that no main bolt was broken. Of the condition of the plate succeeding the second round the *Engineer* remarks: "The pieces are all well held in their positions, and whatever might be the effects of a third round on the plate, it can scarcely be doubted that the shot would be kept out of a ship carrying such a plate, and the question may well be asked when a single plate would ever receive three such blows in service." In response to this question we make the following quotation from an article on "Naval Artillery Fire," by Capt. W. Dawson, R. N., in the November issue of "Colburn's Magazine": "Strange as it sounds, the modern improvements in the Naval service have been generally hostile to accurate shooting at sea. The rapid changes of bearing and of distance which steam admits of are obvious causes of decadence in shooting. This decadence

of naval shooting is a growth, growing with successive improvements in naval architecture and naval armaments. Besides the waste of ammunition and of destructive power, its injurious effect on our own guns increases with their size. One of the highest authorities on naval tactics, Capt. P. H. Colomb, R. N., some years ago, estimated, from data furnished by target practice at sea, that a heavy gun must be discharged fifty times to make one effective hit. Subsequent observation tends to confirm this computation."

But to obtain a full understanding of the trials and their bearings on the question of guns and armor, it will be necessary to follow closely the very full and interesting accounts of them we give at so great length elsewhere. We have only criticized certain positions of the *Engineer's* admirable report, in order to put the reader on his guard against views which are obviously dictated by English prejudices and inspired by English interest.

PERSONAL ITEMS.

MONDAY of this week, January 8, was the anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans, but the day passed with little notice. But few veterans assembled together in any of our principal cities, but those few did what they could to keep alive the memory of the past.

THE *San Francisco Report*, referring to the military escort of the 1st U. S. Cavalry, furnished the Marquis and Marchioness of Lorne on the Pacific coast, again has its little fling at Colonel Tourtellotte, but compliments Lieutenant D. L. Tate, commanding the escort, as being the handsomest man in the Army.

ADJUT. M. C. Foote, 9th U. S. Infantry, of Fort D. A. Russell, has been visiting in Omaha for a few days.

CAPT. B. B. Keeler, U. S. A., is temporarily stopping at the Grand Hotel, New York. His health is much improved.

THE *Dakotian* says: "Mr. Daniel B. Heiner, who died recently at Kittanning, Pa., in his seventy-fifth year, was the father of Capt. R. G. Heiner, 1st U. S. Infantry, formerly stationed at Fort Randall, and well and favorably known to many people in this city. Mr. Heiner was a grandson of Gen. Daniel Broadhead of revolutionary notoriety, and in his death Kittanning loses one of its oldest and best loved citizens."

ASST. ENG. F. W. Bartlett, U. S. N., and bride, have returned to Detroit from a brief tour, and are stopping at 78 Elizabeth street, in that city.

LIEUT. F. C. Grugan, 2d U. S. Artillery, to the regret of his friends at Washington Barracks, expects to return to his former duties at Fortress Monroe, Va., in a few days, General Getty having expressed a desire for his services at the school.

PAYMASTER W. H. Smyth, U. S. A., after a short graduation in Paymaster General Rochester's office, reports to General Pope at Fort Leavenworth for assignment to duty.

COMMODORE William E. Hopkins, U. S. N., went upon the retired list January 10. Captain James E. Jonett, first for promotion to commodore, was to leave Fort Royal Friday of this week for Washington.

ASST. SURG. L. Y. Loring, U. S. A., was suddenly called this week from Fort Adams, R. I., to St. Louis, Mo., by the serious illness of his child.

DANIEL HAVENS, a veteran of the war of 1812, died at North Haven, N. Y., January 8, aged ninety-two.

CAPT. F. A. Hinman, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A., and Mrs. Hinman, sailed from New York for Liverpool on the *Arizona* January 10.

MISS Lilla Benham, daughter of General H. W. Benham, U. S. A., was married this week to Mr. Frederick Dielman, at the residence of the bride's parents, 104 East 86th Street, New York City. The Rev. Edward Everett Hale officiated at the ceremony, which was a quiet but distinguished affair.

THE death, Dec. 13, 1882, of Colonel F. D. Callender, U. S. A. (retired), was officially announced this week from the Headquarters of the Army. The *JOURNAL*, of December 30, last contained an obituary notice of the deceased officer.

GEN. Egbert L. Viele, a graduate of West Point, formerly of the 1st U. S. Infantry, and of latter years prominent in civil life as an engineer, was appointed this week a Commissioner of Public Parks for the city of New York.

GEN. C. McKeever, U. S. A., has recovered from his temporary indisposition, and resumed duty in the A. G. O.

GEN. T. G. Ellis, who was Colonel of the 14th Connecticut Volunteers during the War, and served with distinction in the 2d Army Corps (Major General Hancock, commanding), at Gettysburg, died at Hartford, January 8, at the age of fifty-three.

THE following Army officers registered at the A. G. O. during the week ending January 11: 2d Lieut. E. P. Brewer, 7th Cav., Ebbitt House, sick leave; Lieut.-Col. C. B. Comstock, Engineer Corps, 1507 Rhode Island avenue, before Congressional Committee; 1st Lieut. Hugh T. Reed, 1st Inf., Ebbitt House, visiting friends; Maj. Lewis Merrill, 7th Cav., Ebbitt House, on leave; 1st Lieut. F. K. Ward, 1st Cav., Ebbitt House, duty in Signal Office; 1st Lieut. and R. Q. M. Thomas H. Barry, 1st Inf., Ebbitt House, on leave; 2d Lieut. S. W. Dunning, 16th Inf., Ebbitt House, on leave; Capt. W. A. Miller, 18th Inf., 1214 K street, N. W., on leave; 1st Lieut. J. M. Burns, 17th Inf., Ebbitt House, on leave; Capt. W. G. Spencer, Med. Dept., Ebbitt House, on leave; 2d Lieut. P. P. Powell, 9th Cav., St. James Hotel, on leave; Maj. S. Breck, Asst. Adjutant-General, No. 3 Grant Place, on leave; 1st Lieut. Patrick Fitzpatrick (retired), 1820 I

street, N. W.; Lieut.-Col. Glover Perin, Med. Dept., 1407 Massachusetts avenue, on leave; Col. Chas. E. Blunt, Engineer Corps, Ebbitt House, business with Lighthouse Board; Lieut. J. B. Richards, 4th Cav., Ebbitt House, on leave.

THE *Morning Star* for December, printed and published at the Indian Training School, Carlisle barracks, by Indian pupils, gives increased evidence of the efforts of Captain R. H. Pratt, U. S. A., in the direction of civilization and cultivation.

CAPT. Ralph Chandler, U. S. N., registered at the Metropolitan Hotel, New York, this week.

GEN. George H. Thom, U. S. Army, registered in New York January 10, at the Metropolitan Hotel, New York.

SURG. Henry M. Wells, U. S. N., was present at the 19th annual dinner of the Dartmouth College Alumni, held at Pizard's, Wednesday evening, and made a short address. The occasion was one of much interest and enjoyment.

CAPT. W. S. Worth, 8th U. S. Infantry, is expected back in a few days at Fort McDermitt, Nevada, from leave.

SURG. J. C. McKee, U. S. A., having recovered his health, has taken charge of medical matters at Fort Winfield Scott, Cal.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *JOURNAL* writes: "While many Army officers stationed along the line of the Northern Pacific are becoming rich over their investments, others along the Union Pacific are getting wealthy from prudent investments in stock. Captain Torrey, late of the 13th Infantry, who resigned to attend wholly to his large cattle interests near Fort Washakie, Wyo., now has an income of nearly \$25,000 a year. Lieut. Eaton, late of the 5th Cavalry, resigned to devote all his time to a large and fast increasing herd of cattle near Fort Laramie. Captain Baker, 6th Infantry, is investing judiciously in stock and a fine rancho in Idaho. Assistant Surgeon McElderry is interested in stock in Wyoming. Capt. Coates, 4th Inf., now at Fort Robinson, is interested in a sheep ranch on the Laramie plains. Capt. T. F. Quinn, 4th Inf., is largely interested in cattle, which range, on the Upper Laramie River and its tributaries, McIntyre, LeGarde and Jenkins Creeks, and the celebrated Laramie plains. Prof. Clarence King, formerly director of the National Surveys, made a great deal of money in his investments in cattle in Wyoming and Colorado.

THE following Army and Navy officers registered at the Ebbitt House during the week ending January 11, 1883:—Army—2d Lieut. Edwin P. Brewer, 7th Cav.; Major Lewis Merrill, 7th Cav.; 1st Lieut. F. K. Ward, 1st Cav.; 2d Lieut. Thomas M. Barry, 1st Inf.; 2d Lieut. Samuel W. Dunning, 16th Inf.; 1st Lieut. James M. Burns, 17th Inf.; Major Chas. R. Suter, Eng. Corps; 1st Lieut. M. F. Goodwin, 9th Cav.; 1st Lieut. F. C. Grugan, 2d Art.; Capt. Arthur MacArthur, 18th Inf.; Asst. Surg. W. G. Spencer. Navy—Lieut. T. G. C. Salter, Cadet Engineer T. G. Leopold, Ensign W. G. David, Asst. Engr. C. G. Talcott, Capt. R. W. Meade, Naval Constructor E. Hartt, Chief Engr. J. W. Thompson, Capt. Robert L. Phythian, Lieut. Albert C. Dillingham and wife, Chief Engr. A. Adamson and wife, Lieut. Z. L. Tanner, Capt. D. B. Harmony, and Cadet Midshipman E. F. Leiper.

SPEAKING of the rapid growth and settlement of the Yellowstone Valley, the *Billings Post* says: "Gen. Brieabin intends starting a large dairy on his extensive ranch on the Yellowstone, eight miles above Livingston. He will put on about fifty cows to start with, and a number of thoroughbred cows and bulls from the Sunnyside herd near Minneapolis, Minn. The General also intends to have some thoroughbred mares and stallions on the farm. There is no doubt that the enterprise will pay well. There is excellent pasture and good water in the neighborhood." The *Miles City Journal*, of Jan. 5, says: "Gen. James Brieabin has bought Ezra Pratt's band of cattle, numbering 400. They range on the upper Yellowstone, and are said to be by cattle owners of that section the finest bred cattle in the valley."

LIEUT. H. T. Reed, U. S. A., Professor of Military Science and Tactics at the Southern Illinois Normal University, was in New York with Mrs. Reed during this week, stopping at the Grand Central Hotel, and expected to leave there for Carbondale, Ill.

WE are glad to learn that the injury to Lieut. Philip M. Price, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A., is not likely to result in the loss of a limb, as was feared. He had taken shelter behind a large tree to escape the effects of a blast he was setting off at the Cascades Lakes, in Oregon, when a rod, which had been thrown into the tree, fell, travelling from branch to branch, until it finally struck Mr. Price in the ankle, breaking some of the small bones of the leg. He was doing well at last accounts.

AN enjoyable party was held, Friday evening, Jan. 5, at the Marine Barracks, at Washington, the occasion being the birthday of Miss Annie Williams, daughter of the commanding officer of the garrison, Capt. Williams. Dancing formed the principal amusement of the evening, although a supper, which varied the proceedings, did not come amiss.

THE marriage of Lieut. Alexander Rodgers, 4th U. S. Cav., A. D. C. to Gen. Mackenzie, to Miss Virginia Cameron, daughter of Senator Cameron, took place at the Senator's residence, Scott Circle, Washington, on Thursday evening, Jan. 11. The marriage ceremony was attended principally by the members of the two families. A wedding reception followed the ceremony, to which the invitations were numerous. After a tour Lieut. Rodgers and bride will join Gen. Mackenzie at the station then assigned to him.

AT a meeting of the Illinois Commandery Loyal Legion, held at Chicago, Jan. 4, Gen. M. D. Hardin, U. S. A., Capt. H. W. B. Hoyt, U. S. V., and Lieut. D. Jarvis, U. S. V., were elected members of the Order. The name of Lieut. C. W. Laing, U. S. V., was withdrawn.

THE Officers' Theatre at Fort Leavenworth was crowded to its utmost capacity on Wednesday evening, Jan. 3, to witness the performance of the romantic drama in 3 acts, by G. M. Baker, "Nevada, or, The Lost Mine." The cast was as follows: Nevada (the Wanderer), Lieut. Reynolds; Vermont (an old Miner), Lieut. Irvine; Tom Carew, Mr. G. S. Bingham; Dandy Dick, Lieut. Emmet; Silas Steele (Missionary of Health), Lieut. Greene; Jerden (a Detective), Lieut. King; Jube (a Black Miner), Lieut. Johnston; Winkey (a Chinaman), Lieut. Brooke; Mother Merton, Mrs. Matile; Agnes Fairlee, Mrs. Manning; Moselle (a Waif), Mrs. Handforth. The performance was a most successful one, and the ladies and officers participating were fully up in their respective roles. The performance was under the following management: Manager, Mr. G. S. Bingham; Stage Manager, Lieut. Alfred Reynolds; Assistant Stage Manager, Lieut. Geo. D. Wallace; Scenic Artist, Major J. S. Poland; Propertyman, Lieut. W. P. Evans; Treasurer, Lieut. R. G. Hill. This is the tenth season for the Fort Leavenworth Theatre, and the performance of Jan. 3 was the 57th since its opening.

THE *Vancouver Independent*, of Dec. 28, says: "Maj. J. P. Canby, Pay Department, was at Department Headquarters on a flying visit on Friday, returning to Portland the same day. Dr. Benjamin Munday, Medical Dept., reported at Headquarters yesterday, just arrived from New York, for assignment to duty in this Department. Gen. Nelson Miles, U. S. A., was heard from in Washington on the 26th, and is expected to return to the Department in a very short time. Capt. Frank D. Baldwin, Judge Advocate, returned from Walla Walla a day or two ago. Lieut. O. F. Long, Aide-de-Camp, who accompanied him, also returned."

THE following anecdote concerning Gen. David Hunter, U. S. A., and Mrs. Hunter is related: "During the Mexican war Gen. Hunter was a Paymaster, attached to the Army under Gen. Zachary Taylor, and Mrs. Hunter, a bride then, accompanied her husband to the seat of war. During the retreat, which ended with the total defeat of Santa Anna, Major and Mrs. Hunter were riding together in an ambulance which had halted at a point where wagons obstructed the road, when Mrs. Hunter, sharply looking over the ground, exclaimed: 'Here is where we should fight, and we can whip them.' Gen. Taylor happened to ride up alongside the ambulance just as the remark was made, and it attracted his attention. Taking a sweeping look at the surroundings, he said: 'By God! the woman is right,' and at once issued the order that brought about the battle and victory of Buena Vista in August, 1846."

ASST. SURGEON R. W. Johnson, U. S. A., of Fort Buford, D. T., is coming East for a few weeks.

LIEUT. Will. T. May, 15th U. S. Infantry, was expected to rejoin at Fort Stevenson, D. T., from leave early next week.

THE venerable widow of the late Gen. R. S. Satterlee, U. S. A., died at her residence in New York city January 6. The funeral services took place January 9 at the Church of the Holy Communion, Sixth avenue and Twentieth street. A large number of relatives and friends were present.

LIEUT. W. C. Brown, 1st Cavalry, has been the recipient of many compliments for his manual of arms adopted for all arms with the stacking swivel, and announced to the Army in recent orders from the Headquarters of the Army. Lieut. Brown is on duty at the School of Application, Fort Leavenworth, and a Board of officers there recommended his manual for adoption.

THE *Omaha Herald* of January 5 says: "Col. T. H. Stanton and Mr. H. W. Chace, Pay Department, U. S. A., came in last evening from Fort Niobrara. Mrs. Samuel O. L. Potter, wife of Dr. Potter, acting assistant surgeon, U. S. A., was at the Paxton yesterday en route to Fort Sanders, Wyoming, where the doctor has recently taken station."

CAPT. V. de Mestre, of the Spanish navy, sailed this week from New York for Europe on the *Arizona*.

JUDGE-ADVOCATE-GENERAL D. G. Swaim, U. S. A., has returned to Washington from his trip to Kansas.

LIEUT.-COL. Steble, British army, arrived in New York from Washington early this week.

JUDGE-ADVOCATE A. B. Gardner, U. S. A., registered in Albany this week on an official visit.

ASST. SURGEON J. O. Skinner, U. S. A., lately in Washington, has gone on a few weeks leave.

CAPT. E. P. Ewers, 5th U. S. Infantry, has been spending the first ten days of this month with his family in San Francisco, Cal. They will return to Santa Cruz, Cal., where Capt. Ewers has been spending a very pleasant leave with the family of his brother-in-law, the late Rev. W. Vaux.

CAPT. Loyd Wheaton, 20th U. S. Infantry, and family arrived late last week at Leavenworth, Kas., en route from the East to Fort Hays, Kansas.

THE presence of Maj.-Gen. Irvin McDowell, U. S. A., in New York has been the occasion of the West Point Army Mess tendering him the compliment of a special dinner in his honor, which he has accepted for Friday evening of this week, January 12. The invitation included such of General McDowell's former staff as he might designate, and accordingly Judge-Advocate Asa Bird Gardner, U. S. A., and Capt. J. H. Coster and B. B. Keeler, U. S. A., will be present. The occasion cannot fail of being a pleasant one, for Gen. McDowell has in the past been closely connected with West Point and its surroundings, both in his official and social relations. Maj. Gardner was for several years Professor of Law there, and Capt. Keeler and Coster, his late aides-de-camp, are both popular and agreeable gentlemen.

LIEUT. J. W. Danenhower, U. S. N., at a meeting held at Chickering Hall, New York Dec. 20, 1882, was elected a corresponding member of the American Geographical Society.

At a meeting of the Massachusetts Commandery, Loyal Legion, held at Boston, January 3, Captain W. B. Galucia, U. S. V., was duly elected a member of the order. Amongst recent contributors to the library of this Commandery are Rear-Admiral G. H. Preble, U. S. N., and Generals A. Hun Berry, S. G. Griffin, and Geo. L. Beal.

THE *New South-west* states that Dr. T. H. Pleasants, acting assistant surgeon, U. S. A., at Fort Sill, I. T., is coming to Silver City, N. M., to practice his profession.

THE departure of Captain C. W. Raymond, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A., for his new post at Boston, Mass., is a source of deep regret to his many friends at Willet's Point and vicinity.

THE 10th U. S. Cavalry has secured an able successor to Captain Smith in the regimental adjutancy in the person of Lieutenant Chas. L. Cooper, who entered service in October, 1867, is a native of New York, and appointed to the Army from Pennsylvania.

GEN. Geo. W. Getty, U. S. A., was expected back this week at Fort Monroe, Va., from leave. Colonel L. L. Livingston, U. S. A., commanded during his absence.

LIEUT. Stanton A. Mason, 4th U. S. Cavalry, will remain East for several weeks yet.

CAPT. Louis H. Carpenter, of the cavalry arm, is now the first for promotion to a majority in that arm; Captain M. P. Miller the first in the artillery arm, and Captain A. S. Burt in the infantry. Captain Carpenter has been nearly seventeen years a captain, Captain Miller nearly nineteen, and Captain Burt nearly twenty.

MAJOR F. L. Guenther, 2d U. S. Artillery, has been assigned to special service on the staff of General Hunt at Newport Barracks, Ky., and will attend to inspection and other duties.

JEFFERSON DAVIS, having recently been the subject of scandalous reports in regard to certain doings while an officer of the U. S. Army, now many years ago, writes: "I was then serving in the 1st Dragoons, U. S. A., west of Arkansas. The letter describes me as engaged in playing a game of draw poker—a game which, so far as I know, did not then exist, and of which I have never learned even the first rule. No officers of the names given belonged to the 1st Infantry when I served in it, and I never knew the John Lorraine it describes. There was no officer of the name of Harrison who ever served with me at Prairie du Chien, and I had no such difficulties as those the letter details with any one. While I was on duty at Dubuque my orders required me frequently to go to Galena. The son of the hotel-keeper, Reading Bennett, was well known to me, and, if he were living, would promptly brand the statement of the letter, so far as he and I are concerned, as a falsehood. The truth is, I never drank nor gambled, and any one who ever served with me would probably say that in my youth I was overwilling to fight. The story of the elopement with Gen. Taylor's daughter is as unfounded as the rest. I was one of the two officers selected from the 1st Infantry for promotion in the new regiment of dragoons organized in March, 1833, which separated me from Col. Taylor's regiment. In 1835 I went to Kentucky, where Miss Taylor was with her father's sister, near Louisville, and there married her in the presence of Gen. Taylor's brother, sister, his son-in-law and daughter (Doctor and Mrs. Wood), with many other members of the Taylor family. I served under General (formerly Colonel) Zachary Taylor in the siege of Monterey, and was one of his commissioners to arrange for its capitulation. This fact sufficiently explodes the scene described as occurring at Buena Vista."

SENEBERRY, it is said, being asked whether he never felt afraid, replied: "A private soldier may be a coward; a subordinate officer even can be excused for possessing the instinct of self-preservation. But from the commander of a company upward no justification for cowardice is possible. In my opinion a coward general is a contradiction in terms, and the less such contradictions are tolerated the better."

By recent transfer Capt. William Sinclair, 3d U. S. Artillery, comes into the command of Jackson Barracks, New Orleans.

SURGEON Charles Page, U. S. A., rejoined at Fort Monroe, Va., early this week from a short leave.

THE recent marriage of Lieut. W. T. Russell, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A., to Miss Ellis, took place at Newbern, N. C., and not at Jacksonville, Fla., as heretofore stated.

THE marriage of Lieut. Charles L. Collins, U. S. A., to Miss Emma Byrd, daughter of W. N. Beach, Esq., is announced to take place on Wednesday, Jan. 17, 1883, at 7.30 P. M., at the Church of the Heavenly Rest, Fifth avenue, New York City. A reception after the wedding will be held from 8 to 10 P. M. at 108 West 33rd street.

ASST. ENGR. T. Fred. Carter, U. S. N., is visiting his home at Frankfurt, Ky.

LIEUT. C. B. Satterlee, 3d U. S. Artillery, Professor of Tactics, etc., at the Michigan Military Academy, paid a visit to Detroit early this week, registering at the Russell House.

HOW Gen. Custer died seems to be still an unsettled question. The *Miles City Journal* has received a communication on the subject from an old trapper guide, etc., named Huntley, who says: "I have been requested to write what I know of Gen. Custer's death, and my knowledge of Wm. Cody. In 1876 I was with Gen. Crook on Goose Creek, when the Custer fight occurred. Cody was with Gen. Merritt on Platte River somewhere. Cody never saw the Custer battle ground. He cannot speak the Indian language, nor talk the sign language; that I am sure of. He joined us with Merritt's command on Goose Creek, and we met Gen. Terry on the Rosebud and marched in company to the mouth of Powder River. There Cody left the command and went

to the States. He has been there ever since, I believe. As a scout and prairie man he is 75 degrees behind nothing. I have talked to the Sioux about the death of Custer, and they know nothing about him, only that he was killed. There was no 'massacre' about the fight. Custer attacked the camp and got cleaned up through the cowardice of Reno. Gen. Custer was a favorite with all prairie men; too good a man to be killed in the manner in which he was. For my part, I believe Custer was killed in battle, fighting like a 'little devil,' and likely fell long before the battle ended. 'Curley,' the only survivor, a Crow Indian, knows nothing about Custer's death. I do not believe there is a man living, red or white, who knows how Custer died."

LIEUT. E. O. Gibson, 12th U. S. Infantry, attended this week to the duties of Judge-Advocate of a General Court-martial sitting at Fort Wayne, Mich.

ASST. JOHN Pitcher, 1st Cavalry, has taken charge of recruiting matters at Fort Walla Walla, W. T.

CAPT. J. C. White, 1st U. S. Artillery, of Fort Stevens, Oregon, will visit friends in Philadelphia and elsewhere to remain for several weeks.

MAJOR F. Van Vleet, 10th Cavalry, is expected in the North about the 1st of February to remain until the latter part of May.

MRS. Casey, widow of Gen. Silas Casey, U. S. Army, and daughter, Miss Julia C. Casey, will reside permanently at No. 1718 I st. eet, N. W., Washington, D. C.

BREV. GEN. R. S. McKenzie, U. S. A., visited friends at Governor's Island, N. Y., Monday of this week, and called at headquarters to pay his respects to Maj.-Gen. Hancock.

GEN. J. Watson Webb, in a recent letter to the *New York Times*, objecting to be reported as 87, when in fact only 81 years of age, gives some interesting Army reminiscences. He says: "I was stationed at Detroit when its population was only 2,000; it is now upward of 150,000. I was stationed at St. Louis when its population was 25,000; it now exceeds 550,000. I was stationed at Chicago 10 years before the first house was erected, and its present population exceeds 600,000. When I first passed through Buffalo, in 1819, it contained some 50 houses, and it now boasts a population of nearly 300,000. Then, as Commissary of Subsistence at Detroit, I received my pork and flour for our command from Buffalo, and contracted for my beef with the late General Vanoe, of Ohio, who drove his animals through the black swamp to Detroit, at 3½ cents per pound. Then all the regions west of the lakes were a howling wilderness, and when, as Adjutant of the 3d Regiment, I accompanied the regiment up the Fox River and down the Wisconsin, (Ojibwa the French had named it,) the Indians alone occupied the country, and the Winnebagoes forbade our passing through Winnebago Lake, I, as Adjutant, was sent by my Colonel (Leavenworth) to have a talk with them, it being beneath his dignity to meet them. We held a council on the banks of the lake, and I was gravely told that the gates of the lake were closed and we could not pass through them. I demanded the keys, and received for answer that they were at the bottom of the lake and could not be furnished. To which I replied that it was of no consequence, as my Che-o-go-ma had a key of his own, consisting of 500 bayonets in the hands of 500 che-mo-ka-men (soldiers); that at six o'clock on the following morning we should open the gates of the lake and pass through, and that we should shoot any Indian who approached either the river or lake. We had similar annoyances from the Indians, at the Portage from the Fox to the Wisconsin River, but they were only idle threats. Now all Wisconsin and the west bank of the Mississippi are well settled, flourishing States. And all this during the active period of a single life."

THE *San Francisco Report* of December 30, says: "Major and Mrs. F. A. Whitney are in the city from San Diego. Capt. White, U. S. A., who is stationed at Fort Vancouver, W. T., arrived from the North on Sunday. The ladies of Alcatraz Fort Point and Black Point, will receive, together with the ladies of the Presidio, at the latter post. Commander Glass, U. S. N., who has been on a brief tour in Washington Territory, returned home last Sunday. Mrs. Buford leaves for the East to-day to meet the Lieutenant Commander upon his detachment from the *Pe-sacola*. Pay Director Schenck has been laid up for several days with a severe attack of gout, but is now able to be out again."

ADVERTISING to the presence of Army officers, under the leadership of General Sherman at the President's reception January 1, a Washington despatch says: "It was recognized, and without any preliminary arrangement whatever, that this would be the last New Year's General Sherman would be present as General-in-Chief of the Army, and the greetings tendered him personally, as officers gathered around him, were such that tears came to the eyes of the old hero."

CAPT. O. W. Budd and Lieut. Erwin, U. S. A., have rejoined at Fort Leavenworth from a trip to St. Louis.

THE last will of the late Rear Admiral R. H. Wyman, U. S. N., was filed for probate Jan. 5. It was made at Norfolk November, 1879, and attested by Captain D. B. Harmony, U. S. N., and W. H. Schuetze, master, U. S. N., now in Siberia. He bequeaths his estate to his family, giving his farm in Howard county, Md., to his son, Thomas W. Wyman.

THE Thursday's Assembly Club, composed of Army and Navy officers, members of the Diplomatic Corps and civilians, has been organized to give several entertainments before the commencement of Lent. The first takes place next Thursday night, January 11, says the *Washington Herald*, at Masonic Hall, and promises to be one of the handsomest affairs of the season. The Thursday Club is virtually a re-organization of the old Army and Navy German Club. Its officers are as follows: Lieut. T. H. Stevens, of the Navy,

president; Lieut. J. A. Dapray, of the Army, sec'y.; Mr. A. V. Zane, of the Navy, treasurer, and the following-named gentlemen, together with those already mentioned, are the executive committee: Mr. T. P. B. Sands, Maj. G. M. Whiteside, of the Army; Dr. J. F. Bransford, of the Navy; Mr. Walker Blaine, Mr. Frederico Pinto, of the Chilean Legation; Lieut. R. M. Rogers, of the Army; Mr. Truxton Beale, Lieut. W. E. Almy, of the Army, and Mr. P. R. Alger, of the Navy. The invitations are being issued. The second entertainment will take place Jan. 25, the week following the next Bachelor's Gorman.

COMDR. Charles E. Clarke, U. S. N., was in New York this week, stopping at the Hoffman House.

COMDR. H. F. Gye, British navy, registered at the Everett House, New York, early this week.

A GRANITE and bronze mausoleum is to be placed in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, to the memory of the late Gen. A. J. Myer, Chief Signal officer, U. S. A. The transept panel over the door will be of bronze, a double medallion of Gen. Myer and the late Judge Walden, the latter the father of Mrs. Myer, by whom the monument is to be erected.

REAR-ADMIRAL A. A. Harwood, U. S. N., is residing for the winter at 33 West 10th street, New York City.

MAJOR Lewis Merrill, 7th Cav., now East on leave, will return to Dakota at an early date.

CAPT. Clarence E. Dutton, Ordnance Corps, U. S. A., who recently returned from his season's scientific explorations, is in Washington. During his absence this summer he explored the Sierras in Southern California, and then went to the Sandwich Islands to visit Mauna Loa and other volcanoes, and will next year examine the Cascade Range in California and Oregon.

WE regret to learn that the infant son, born on Christmas Day, of Paymaster Gen. J. A. Smith, U. S. N., died Friday of last week.

CAPT. W. A. Miller, 18th Inf., on leave from Fort Maginnis, M. T., is visiting in Washington. He still suffers from the injuries received last summer while out hunting.

AT Mrs. E. F. Beale's reception at Washington last week, Generals Grant, Sherman, McClellan and Joe Johnston, and Secretary of War Lincoln were present, and the remarkable conjunction did not pass unnoticed.

LIEUT. W. H. Jacques, U. S. N., A. D. C. to Commodore Upshur, of the New York Navy-yard, is on temporary service at Washington, which may keep him there for some time to come.

HON. WM. L. LEDGERWOOD, Speaker elect of the Tennessee House of Delegates, served in the Union Army during the late war from East Tennessee, and entered the Regular Army as 2d Lieutenant 18th Inf., July 30, 1863, afterwards transferred to the 8th Cav., and resigned March 1, 1870. He is now a leading member of the Knoxville bar.

COL. EDWARD C. ANDERSON, ex Mayor of Savannah, Ga., and President of the Ocean Steamship Company, died in that city Jan. 6 in his 68th year. He was formerly a lieutenant in the U. S. Navy, resigning in 1849, and afterward a colonel in the Confederate army.

LIEUT. HORACE B. WEST, U. S. R. M., recently ordered to the U. S. R. steamer *Grant*, on duty at New York, expects to remain at that port for at least a year.

CAPT. H. C. EGBERT, 12th U. S. Infantry, has rejoined at Madison Barracks, N. Y., from an official trip to New York.

ASST. SURG. M. W. WOOD, U. S. A., has left Fort Brady, Mich., on a month's leave. He was at the Russell House, Detroit, this week.

CAPT. F. T. BENNETT, 9th Cavalry, now East on leave, is expected to rejoin at Fort Reno, I. T., early in February.

CAPT. G. B. RUSSELL, U. S. A., inspector on Gen. Angur's staff, has been visiting at Galveston, Texas, on inspection duty.

PAYMASTER G. E. GLENN, U. S. A., visited Little Rock Barracks, Ark., this week, and disbursed a goodly pile of greenbacks.

LIEUT. D. F. ANGLIM, 12th U. S. Infantry, of Madison Barracks, joined at Plattsburg Barracks this week from temporary duty, and will likely remain there until the return of Lieut. Haskell from California.

ASST. SURG. W. C. GORGAS, U. S. Army, has joined at Fort Brown, Texas, for duty, from a temporary tour at San Antonio.

LIEUT. F. M. H. KENDRICK, 7th Infantry, is busy settling his quartermaster's business at Fort Pembina, D. T., preparatory to joining his company at Fort D. A. Russell, Wyo. Territory.

GEN. O. B. WILLCOX, U. S. A., left Sackett's Harbor for New York this week, to be absent until about Jan. 25.

LIEUT. VON Tschudi, German army, sailed from New York for Bremen, on the Oder, Jan. 6.

ASST. SURGEON J. D. GATEWOOD, U. S. A., registered at Barnum's Hotel, Baltimore, Monday of this week.

LIEUT. D. J. RUMBROUGH, 3d U. S. Artillery, registered in New York early this week, returning to Fort Monroe, Va., from leave.

WE are grieved to learn of the illness, at the United States Hotel, Hartford, Conn., of Mrs. Stancliff, wife of Paymaster H. T. Stancliff, U. S. N. The Paymaster, who was called on this account from Mare Island, Cal., has arrived at Hartford.

THE *San Francisco Report*, referring to a statement in the Nevada Transcript that "the Murchie mine is looking splendidly, the ore deposits never having made a more encouraging appearance," says: "This is the property of Gens. Crook, Kautz, Sheridan, and other military men got into several years ago. There would appear to be some hopes of success at last."

THE SOLDIER AS HE REALLY IS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

THE people at large seem to think the Army composed of fugitives from justice, and whenever they hear that a neighbor's son has enlisted, break out into ejaculations of pious horror. The name soldier, as they use it, seems to be a synonym for all that is degrading and low, and whenever they meet a person bearing it they cannot forbear showing their contempt.

If a soldier be good looking, they straightway set him down as a libertine: if possessed of ordinary intelligence, they regard him as a bank defaulter; in short, they have an entire catalogue of imaginary crimes which are ingeniously fitted to every shade of character he may exhibit.

Only last summer a civilian who deigned to notice me did so in order to make an allusion to "wine and women;" and a few weeks since another wished to be informed "what devilry" I had "been up to." Those were questions of which they would not have dreamt had I worn plain clothing, and which seemed prompted by my uniform. As I am not one to feel flattered by such insinuations, I take this opportunity of telling what the soldier really is in order that this unfounded prejudice may be removed from the minds of a few at least.

The majority of soldiers are forced into the Army by those genial, wholesome qualities so incompatible with the selfish ideas prevalent in civil life; and, far from being dishonorably inclined, they frequently have notions of honor approaching the absurd. They have valued friendship for its own sake and have not learned the ignoble art of "throwing a sprat to catch a gudgeon;" they have been freehearted, ingenuous, and unsuspecting; and I think, if the matter were probed to the bottom, it would be found that they are "more sinned against than sinning."

I do not claim for the Army the morality of a school of divinity; a soldier is not generally over nice in the selection of his adjectives; he likes a quiet game, and his social proclivities occasionally cause him to indulge in a glass too much; but let a comrade be in trouble, or an object of charity appear, and he gives generously and cheerfully, as only a soldier can. If volunteers are wanted for any act of benevolence, he is the first to step forward; and if he have vices, they are comparatively few, while his virtues are many and great.

In conclusion, I dare affirm that I can select ten men from a company of forty who will compare favorably, both mentally and morally, with ten men selected from a similar number casually thrown together in civil life, and that the average soldier is greatly superior to the average civilian, both in conduct and intelligence.

SOLDIER.

THE SOLDIERS' HOME.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

A GREAT deal of attention of late has been attracted to the old Soldiers' Home near Washington, but in the midst of wrangling it is highly probable that the interests of the old soldiers, for whose benefit the Home was first instituted, will be lost sight of altogether.

The foundations of the Soldiers' Home were laid in Mexico, during our war with that country. General Scott, commanding the American forces in Mexico, finding himself outside the limits of the United States, and that the Rules and Articles of War did not provide for the punishment of certain crimes and misdemeanors in a foreign country, issued a general order, virtually declaring martial law in that portion of Mexico where the Army was operating, and in consideration of the protection afforded the inhabitants he levied a contribution of \$150,000 upon the capital—the city of Mexico. Of this contribution \$20,000 were appropriated to the purchase of extra comforts for the wounded and sick in hospital, \$90,000 to the purchase of blankets and shoes for gratuitous distribution among the rank and file of the Army, and \$40,000 reserved for other necessary military purposes.

But the war was practically over. Supplies began to arrive uninterruptedly and the pressing needs of the troops were removed, and hence a considerable portion of the money collected was never used for the purposes originally intended, and when the Army returned from Mexico this money was brought along as one of the spoils of war. It did not belong to the Treasury, and for some time the military officials, including the Secretary of War, were in doubts what disposition to make of it. At length they decided to establish a home for old and disabled soldiers, and one of the most beautiful places in the vicinity of Washington was purchased, good buildings erected, and the Home began its beneficent work of caring for the old soldiers who had served faithfully for twenty years, or had become disabled in the line of duty. The institution has been supported by a fund derived from a tax of 12½ cents per month upon every enlisted man in the Army, and by the collection of fines from soldiers tried and convicted by courts-martial for various military offences.

The mission of the Home in providing for the wants of the old soldiers of the Republic, worn out in the public service and no longer able to follow the colors, has been a noble charity, bestowed upon most worthy subjects, but there has always been a disinclination among the old soldiers to avail themselves of the advantages offered unless absolutely compelled to do so, because they naturally felt a reluctance to accept benefits for which they were making no return, forgetting the fact that this place was established to reward them for past faithful services and hardships. They have also felt separated from the Army, and lost their identity with it. They pine for the daily drills, guard-mounting, dress parades and reviews, and the hundred and one thing in a soldier's life that make it one of constant activity, excitement and fascination. Their little world is circumscribed by the limits of the Home and its broad acres, and they have little in common with the rest of the world.

It has been suggested that a portion of the grounds around the Home should be set aside for the use of the garrison of Washington, and that the model barracks of the country, indeed of the world, should be constructed there. The necessity for an adequate reserve military force in the immediate vicinity of Washington has been demonstrated too often during the last twenty-five years to need any argument on that point at this late day. The present site of the Washington Barracks, at the confluence of the two branches of the Potomac River, surrounded by great flats, from which the most pernicious odors emanate, and exposed to the diabolical sewerage of the city, which floats past on every tide, is more than enough to condemn the location for military purposes on sanitary grounds alone.

It is not surprising that Gen. Ayres should jump at the chance of moving his troops from this unhealthy spot to the high and salubrious country near Gaithersburg, Maryland, and in no haste to return to the pleasures of the Capital, which have to be enjoyed in an atmosphere that more than one President of the United States, although much better situated in a thousand different ways, has found too much for his constitution. Many of them, including Lincoln, Grant, Hayes, and lastly President Arthur, have found the Soldiers' Home, although only about three miles distant from the White House, a delightful change from the miasma of the Potomac flats.

Why not then move the barracks to the grounds surrounding the Soldiers' Home, before additional hundreds, thousands, perhaps a hundred thousand dollars has been expended in the construction of fine buildings that will have to be abandoned eventually on account of their unhealthy location.

From the Soldiers' Home troops can be moved to the railroads, or any part of the city of Washington, almost if not quite as quickly as from the Arsenal buildings; the sick list would not be encumbered with numerous cases of malarial diseases, and those not on the sick report would be in a more efficient condition for service when required.

Washington is now, or soon will be, the most magnificent city in America. It is laid out on a plan which admits of the finest effects. Every department of the Government is represented in an appropriate way except the military branch.

The traveller visits London, and returns to his own country filled with admiration at the splendid soldiers who sit on their splendid chargers in front of the Horse Guards (or War Office), man and horse immovable as statues during their tour of guard duty. So of Paris, Berlin, Vienna, in fact all the great capitals of Europe, having any pretensions to military excellence. These things make their impression upon everybody who sees them, and they come away with a more exalted idea of foreign countries. The numerous attractions of the city of Paris have brought to it thousands of sightseers, who have left behind them millions of dollars as souvenirs of their visit. Let us add to the attractions of our great Capital by showing the world a model garrison. But some may say, Oh! the expense! To them let the reply be—Hang the expense. We are the richest and greatest nation in the world and can afford a little extra style in the military line just to show what we can do when we feel that way. When foreign dignitaries visit the Capital they could be escorted to the model barracks and model garrison at the Soldiers' Home and there be shown how the great Republic provides for its disabled veterans, and the high standard required from those intrusted with the guardianship of its honor and glory.

AN OPINION WHICH IS READ WITH REGRET.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

THE recent opinion given by the Judge-Advocate-General of the Army deciding that where an officer failed habitually to pay his debts he could not be charged and tried for conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman was read with regret by nearly all. A decision of this kind certainly does not tend to elevate the standard of honor in which we pride ourselves. A civilian who deems the non-payment of just debts a dishonorable action, and hence unbecoming a gentleman, will read with surprise that it is not so to be considered in the Army. But why, Mr. Editor, submit this question to any one man, even the learned Judge-Advocate-General? Is not a court-martial, a court of one's peers, the best judge of what constitutes conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman? Allow us to decide these things for ourselves in the Army. Ninety-nine officers out of a hundred do consider it conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, for an officer not to pay his just debts where he is able to do it, or to contract debts on the strength of his commission, with no intent ever to pay, and they differ with the Judge Advocate-General, believing that this class of offences can be reached by the 61st Article of War because they bring discredit and disgrace to the service, of which no officer should be guilty and go unpunished. The instances of this kind are fortunately few, and, as a rule, our credit is good the United States over, because merchants consider us men of honor and gentlemen; but where will this decision lead to? It is a good thing for the dead beats, and the rest are ashamed of it. The newspapers throughout the land copy it and censure it in unmeasured terms, and it has caused much unfavorable comment on the Army. There are hundreds of officers that, as such, can obtain credit almost anywhere, yet who out of the Army could not borrow a cent. We all know instances where a whole regiment on changing station suffered in reputation from the fact that perhaps one or two of its officers failed to pay their debts before they left, and these one or two will probably continue to do the same thing, making debts which they never intend to liquidate, and our Articles of War will not reach them. Give the officers of the Army a chance to interpret their own standard of honor and what they consider conduct unbecoming one of themselves, and you will have the true meaning of the article and the

purpose for which it was originally framed. A court-martial will readily determine from the evidence whether or not the case before it was fraud with criminal intent or inability to pay due to unforeseen circumstance. "NECESSITY."

A NEW RIFLE.

WHAT is practically a new rifle will shortly, in all probability, be issued to our soldiers. Experiments with this view have been going on for some time past, and I am now able to state their result. The new weapon emanates from the Royal Small Arms Factory—the birth-place of the original Enfield rifle—and its construction is mainly due to Mr. Mace, one of the assistants at that establishment, after whom, in all likelihood, the new rifle will be named. The breech action and lock of the present Martini-Henry are retained, but all else is changed. Thus, the diameter of the new barrel is reduced to .40 of an inch; while, instead of the Henry rifling, what is known as the "ratchett system" has been substituted, the grooves being cut deep on one flank and vanishing away to nothing on the other. These grooves have been given a twist of no less than three entire turns in the length of the barrel. The bullet has been slightly elongated, and the charge of powder increased to 85 grains. The weight of the barrel has likewise been increased by some 4 ozs., and this I consider the worst feature in the arrangement, as many think the weight of the present Martini-Henry already rather excessive. However, the net result of these new mechanical combinations is to give the bullet a very high degree of initial velocity—about 1,900 ft. per second at the muzzle of the gun, whereas in the Snider it is only about 1,200; and while, as a matter of course, the accuracy of the rifle is thereby much increased, the height of the trajectory is at the same time so reduced that it is seriously proposed to do away with the adjustable back-sight, as now used, altogether, as the trajectory is so flat that the rifle practically shoots point-blank up to 900 yards. In other words, an enemy would be under the power of the rifle throughout that distance without any judging distance being required on the part of the firer. In such rifles as have, however, been provided with sights, instead of elevation being obtained by raising the back-sight, the requisite elevation is secured by a drop fore-sight at the side of the barrel close to the muzzle; the object of this being to allow the firer to shoot at long distances, such as 2,000 yards, up to which distance the new rifle is sighted, without having to strain the neck and shoulders. In plain language, elevation is obtained, not by depressing the breech, but by raising the muzzle.

I understand it is proposed to serve out these sighted rifles to the marksmen in a battalion, to use when acting as sharpshooters at distances beyond 900 yards, and this privilege will doubtless be much appreciated by the men, and regarded as a fitting reward for their prowess at the target butts, serving as a further incentive to their becoming "marksmen." Before the exact diameter of the new bore was definitely fixed on exhaustive experiments were made with rifles of three different calibres, the smallest of the three being ultimately chosen. This reduction of bore may possibly revive the discussion as to whether a bullet of so small a calibre is practically sufficient for placing a man *hors de combat* in action. Now, experience has pretty well settled this question, for it has been established that, although it may require a big plug to "stop" an elephant or rhinoceros, yet a very small wound will suffice in the case of a man. One other point requires to be noted; the grooved stock has been done away with, and the barrel now rests on and is attached to a stock with a perfectly flat surface on its upper side, so that, in the position of firing, the left hand now merely grips the woodwork, without touching or encircling the metal of the barrel, and the firer is thus rendered independent of the barrel getting heated—as it undoubtedly does after rapid firing. Besides which, this new plan of setting the barrel in relief enables the metal to be kept dry and clean and properly oiled all round, whereas when lying in the old grooved bed, salt water and moisture would find its way betwixt the stock and barrel, entailing a certain amount of corrosion which was very prejudicial to the metal of the gun.—*Whitehall Review*.

ARMY DESERTIONS.

MR. LOUIS SCHLAEGER, speaking in the interest of German privates in the Regular Army, calls the attention of the Military Committees of the two Houses to the subject of desertions in the Army, in a letter from which we quote:

Our Senate and House Military Committees will do well to have a committee of honest and trustworthy citizens appointed—citizens, not army officers, to examine into the reasons why nearly one half of the soldiers of the little American Army are annually deserting. We are convinced, from letters published in our German papers, which have been written by intelligent and educated men, who were unfortunately enough to enlist, that that committee will find that the principal causes of desertion are unscrupulous and more penitentiary-like work and more than autocratic and not seldom inhuman treatment which the American soldier gets on the part of the officers of the Republic. Nowhere is the distance between a private and an officer as great as in this country. The officer belongs to a different caste, to enter which is wholly impossible for the soldier. The whole system of our Army is borrowed from the despotic European governments of the last century. The corporal punishments which soldiers receive often make it necessary to inquire whether we live in the 19th century or in the last. Of course, an army of pariahs and slaves in a country where everybody claims to be a sovereign will always be an anomaly, and a refuge merely for such worthless characters who cannot make a living as freemen, and who prefer prison treatment under Stars and Stripes. Let a committee to be appointed inquire into how soldiers are worked. They will find that there are not a few soldiers in the Army, among them some who have been in the service for as long as three years, who have never handled a musket or been drilled in the use of arms, but have been employed for all other kinds of work, even as baby nurses for officers' wives, as cooks, washerwomen, gardeners, house servants, etc., though they have drawn regular soldiers' pay. That will also explain why our army, in proportion, has less fighting men than any other army in the world. Let there be an examination, by all means.

THE ARMY.

G. O. 2, DEPT. OF THE EAST, Jan. 6, 1883.

Publishes an extract from the Adjutant-General of the Army, dated Jan. 5, 1883, which states as follows:

A "shot gun outfit" is issued by the Ordnance Department with each gun, containing a year's supply of ammunition, with loading tools, etc., and costs \$19.00. The Ordnance Department cannot sell any of the components. The powder, shot, shells, etc., being of the ordinary commercial character, they may be purchased in market.

Companies having shot guns which have been issued to them, may, when the original supply is exhausted, purchase ammunition with company funds, but such ammunition should be used only by enlisted men who are good shots and accustomed to hunting, and for the special purpose of procuring game for the company mess.

All concerned in the department will be governed accordingly.

By command of Major-Gen. Hancock:
WILLIAM D. WHITFIELD, Asst. Adjt.-Gen.

G. O. 27, DEPT. OF DAKOTA, Dec. 20, 1882.

Publishes report of the Inspector of Rifle Practice at Dept. Hdqrs. with critical remarks. (Referred to in detail in another column.)

G. O. 29, DEPT. OF THE MISSOURI, Dec. 27, 1882.

Publishes the list of marksmen in this Dept. with their qualifying per cent., and the number in each regiment belonging to each class, as determined by the Annual Classification in Musketry for the year ending Sept. 30, 1882.

G. O. 51, DEPT. OF ARIZONA, Dec. 26, 1882.

Announces the result of target practice in this Department for the month of October, 1882.

CIRCULAR 25, DEPT. OF TEXAS, Dec. 30, 1882.

Target firing will be so conducted at posts in this Department that, on April 1, 1883, sufficient ammunition (of the allowance of 240 rounds per man for current fiscal year) will be left in each troop and company, to enable each man to fire—in the three months then remaining of the fiscal year—at least 180 rounds—i. e., 60 rounds per man, per month. To correct certain misunderstandings that have arisen, it is announced that the position for firing lying down is not necessarily "prone," but may be with either head or feet toward the target, without artificial rest.

CIRCULAR 26, DEPT. OF TEXAS, Dec. 30, 1882.

Publishes a report of musketry practice in this Department for the month of November, 1882.

STAFF CORPS AND DEPARTMENTS.

BUREAU OF MILITARY JUSTICE.—Major Asa Bird Gardner, Judge-Advocate, will proceed to Albany, N. Y., on public business (S. O. 5, Jan. 9, D. E.)

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.—Under par. 45, of the Army Regulations, G. O. 135, series of 1882, from the Adjt.-Gen.'s Office, the Chief Q. M. of the Dept. of Texas will, hereafter, have charge of the Q. M. depot at San Antonio, Tex. (S. O. 1, Jan. 2, D. T.)

Capt. L. E. Campbell, A. Q. M., is relieved as Depot Q. M. at San Antonio, Tex., and is announced as assistant to the Chief Q. M. of the Dept. of Texas (S. O. 1, Jan. 2, D. T.)

The journeys performed by Major George H. Weeks, Q. M., as member of the Board of Officers convened by S. O. 170, c. s., Mil. Div. of the Pacific, from San Francisco, Cal., to San Juan Capistrano, Cal., via Lathrop and Los Angeles, Cal., and return, from Dec. 3 to Dec. 7; from San Francisco, Cal., to Sacramento, Cal., Dec. 20; from Sacramento, Cal., to Stockton, Cal., Dec. 21; and from Stockton, Cal., to San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 22, 1882, are approved (S. O. 193, Dec. 26, M. D. P.)

Capt. James W. Snelly, A. Q. M., will report at Hdqrs. Dept. of the East on public business, on completion of which he will return to his station, Fort Adams, R. I. (S. O. 6, Jan. 11, D. E.)

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.—The Medical Director of the Dept. of Texas will, hereafter, perform the duties of attending surgeon at Hdqrs. Dept. of Texas. Asst. Surg. Passmore Middleton is, accordingly, relieved as attending surgeon, continuing as post surgeon, under the assignment to the post of San Antonio by S. O. 252, par. 2, series of 1879, from Hdqrs. Dept. of Texas (S. O. 1, Jan. 2, D. T.)

Leave of absence for one month is granted 1st Lieut. R. W. Johnson, Asst. Surg., Fort Buford, D. T. (S. O. 4, Jan. 5, D. D.)

Surg. J. O. McKee will report, on or before Jan. 1, 1883, to the C. O., Fort Winfield Scott, Cal., for duty as post surgeon, relieving A. A. Surg. J. F. Minor, who will report to the Medical Director, Dept. of California, for annulment of contract (S. O. 197, Dec. 28, D. Cal.)

Leave of absence for one month is granted Asst. Surg. Marshall W. Wood, Fort Brady, Mich. (S. O. 4, Jan. 8, D. E.)

Asst. Surg. J. O. Worthington, member G. C.-M. at Fort Wayne, Mich., Jan. 10 (S. O. 3, Jan. 6, D. E.)

The extension of leave of absence granted Major John Moore, Surg., is still further extended seven days (S. O. 4, Jan. 8, W. D.)

Leave of absence for one month is granted Capt. John O. Skinner, Asst. Surg. (S. O. 4, Jan. 6, W. D.)

1st Lieut. Benjamin Munday is, upon the recommendation of the Medical Director, assigned to duty at Fort Klamath (S. O. 195, Dec. 29, D. Columbia.)

The journey performed by Capt. T. E. Wilcox to the Upper Cascades and return to Vancouver, Wash. Ty., on Dec. 21 and 22, was on public business, for the purpose of rendering professional service to 1st Lieut. P. M. Price, Corps of Engineers (S. O. 192, Dec. 22, D. Columbia.)

The leave of absence for seven days granted 1st Lieut. G. F. Wilson is extended seven days (S. O. 194, Dec. 27, D. Columbia.)

Hosp. Steward Wm. W. Dall is assigned to duty at Fort Stevens, Ore. (S. O. 194, Dec. 27, D. Columbia.)

Hosp. Steward James R. Balfour (late Sergt. Troop B, 2d Cav.), will proceed from Fort Maginnis, M. T., to Fort Leavenworth, Kan., and report to the Comdg. Gen. Dept. of the Missouri for duty (S. O. 4, Jan. 5, W. D.)

Hosp. Steward George Diefenbach will proceed to Fort Mackinac, Mich., for duty (S. O. 6, Jan. 11, D. D.)

PAY DEPARTMENT.—Major George E. Glenn, Paymaster, Chief Paymaster Dept. of the South, will proceed to Little Rock, Ark., and pay the troops there stationed on muster and pay rolls of Dec. 31, 1882 (S. O. 2, Jan. 5, D. S.)

Major George R. Smith, Paymaster, New Orleans, La.,

will proceed to Jackson Barracks, La., Mount Vernon Barracks, Ala., St. Augustine, Fla., Augusta Arsenal, Ga., and Fort Barrancas, Fla., and pay the troops there stationed on muster and pay rolls of Dec. 31, 1882 (S. O. 2, Jan. 5, D. S.)

Major John S. Witcher, Paymaster, is assigned to duty in the Dept. of California, with station at San Francisco, Cal., to date from Dec. 21 (S. O. 192, Dec. 22, M. D. P.)

Payments to the troops in the Dept. of California on the musters of Dec. 31, 1882, are assigned to Paymasters, as follows: Major O. J. Sprague, at Presidio of San Francisco, Alcatraz Island, Angel Island, Fort Winfield Scott, Fort Mason, Benicia Barracks, and Benicia Arsenal, Cal. Major T. O. H. Smith, at Fort Gaston, Cal. Major J. S. Witcher, at Fort Bidwell, Cal., and Forts McDermitt and Halleck, Nev. (S. O. 197, Dec. 28, D. Cal.)

Major Wm. H. Smyth, Paymaster, is relieved from duty in Washington, D. C., and will report to the Comdg. Gen. Dept. of the Missouri for duty in that department (S. O. 4, Jan. 8, W. D.)

The journey performed by Major James P. Canby from Portland to Vancouver Barracks, and return, on Dec. 22, was on public business (S. O. 194, Dec. 27, D. Columbia.)

CORPS OF ENGINEERS.—Boards of engineer officers are constituted as follows, to meet in New York City and in San Francisco, Cal., respectively, for the examination of certain officers of the Corps of Engineers with a view to their promotion, when legally entitled thereto: Detail for the Board to meet in New York City.—Col. John Newton, and Lieut.-Cols. Henry L. Abbot and Cyrus B. Comstock, for the examination of 1st Lieut. Eric Berglund and Francis V. Greene. Detail for the Board to meet in San Francisco, Cal.—Col. Charles S. Stewart, Lieut.-Col. George H. Mendell, and Capt. Albert H. Payson, for the examination of 1st Lieut. Philip M. Price. Each board will be assembled at as early a date as practicable, on the call of the senior officer thereof, who is authorized to order the designated candidates to appear before it as rapidly as they can be examined, due regard being had for the interests of the service (S. O. 4, Jan. 10, W. D.)

Col. Z. B. Tower having served as an officer of the Army over forty years, is, at his own request, by direction of the President, retired from active service as of Jan. 10, under the provisions of the act approved June 30, 1882, and will proceed to his home (S. O. 4, Jan. 10, W. D.)

SIGNAL SERVICE.—Capt. George T. Olmsted, Jr., Acting Signal Officer, is appointed Acting Assistant Quartermaster, in connection with the military telegraph lines in the Dept. of Arizona, relieving 1st Lieut. F. K. Ward, 1st Cav. (S. O. 188, Dec. 30, D. A.)

THE LINE.

3RD CAVALRY, Colonel Albert G. Brackett.

G. O. 8, Hdqrs 3d Cav., Whipple Barracks, Prescott, A. T., Dec. 21, 1882.—The Regimental Commander sorrowfully announces the death of one of the most distinguished officers of the 3d Cavalry, Major J. W. Mason, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel, U. S. A., whose record of service shows a creditable share in many of the dangerous Indian campaigns, as well as an honorable participation in the more momentous military operations of the great civil war, died of apoplexy, at Camp Huachuca, on the 19th instant. Major Mason was born in Pennsylvania, was commissioned a 2d Lieutenant of the 2d Cavalry, on the 26th of April, 1861, and immediately commenced a career of severe and distinguished service, terminating only with his life. He was brevetted Major for gallant and meritorious service at the battle of Beverly Ford, Va., June 9, 1863; and Lieutenant-Colonel for similar conduct at the battle of Brandy Station, August 1, 1863. At the conclusion of hostilities, he was selected to command the escort for the President of the United States, and retained command so long as such escort was considered necessary. Coming to the Far West, he rendered important service against the Apaches, Hualpais, and Apache Mojaves, in Arizona; and commanded a battalion in General Crook's forces operating against the hostile Sioux and Cheyennes in Montana, Wyoming, Dakota, and Nebraska, in 1876-7, taking part in the different engagements, and bearing, without complaint, the privations and exposure of the whole campaign. The deceased was recognized not only as a gallant and able soldier, but as a scholar, who had made great advances in his favorite study of civil engineering, in which his proficiency was conceded by the most competent authorities. Major Mason's conduct, through a long and meritorious career, won for him the respect and confidence of his superiors, as was manifested by the delicate and important duties intrusted to him; and the wisdom of their choice was demonstrated by the brilliant success with which he executed his instructions. As a tribute of respect to his memory, the usual badge of mourning will be worn by the officers of the regiment for thirty days, and the regimental standard will be draped in mourning for the same period.—By order of Major A. W. Evans: GEO. F. CHASE, Lieut. and Actg. Adjt., 3d Cavalry.

1st Lieut. George F. Chase is relieved from duty as Acting Regimental Adjutant. 1st Lieut. Bainbridge Reynolds, Adjt., having returned from leave of absence, will resume the duties of Regimental Adjutant (G. O. 9, Dec. 29, Hdqrs 3d Cav.)

4TH CAVALRY, Col. William B. Royall.

1st Lieut. Joseph H. Dorst, having been appointed Aide-de-camp to Brigadier-General R. S. Mackenzie, U. S. Army, and ordered to report to him, is relieved from duty as Adjutant of the 4th U. S. Cavalry. The selection of Lieut. Dorst by his former Colonel as aide, is a sufficient commentary upon his services, and his present regimental commander sincerely regrets his loss (Orders 1, Hdqrs 4th Cav., Fort Bayard, N. M., Jan. 1, 1883.)

The Supt. Mounted Recruiting Service will cause fifty recruits to be prepared and forwarded to Santa Fe, N. M., for the 4th Cav. (S. O. 4, Jan. 9, W. D.)

Sergt. Edward McCann, of Troop C, an old soldier of twenty years' service, stationed at Fort Bayard, recently lost three of his children, from diphtheria. The fourth died on Christmas day. All these deaths occurred within five days.

5TH CAVALRY, Colonel Wesley Merritt.

Leave Extended.—Major J. J. Upham, to include Jan. 2 (S. O. 265, Dec. 30, D. M.)

6TH CAVALRY, Col. Eugene A. Carr.

The C. O. Fort Apache will grant a furlough for three months, to take effect upon his re-enlistment, to Private Otto Deniston, Troop A (S. O. 187, Dec. 26, D. A.)

9TH CAVALRY, Colonel Edward Hatch.

The C. O. of Fort Riley, Kas., will grant a furlough for four months to Private Richard Parker, Troop H, to take effect after his re-enlistment (S. O. 1, Jan. 2, D. M.)

The C. O. of Fort Riley, Kas., will grant a furlough for two months to Private Henry Cannon, Troop I (S. O. 4, Jan. 6, D. M.)

Leave Extended.—1st Lieut. F. Boers Taylor, further extended three months (S. O. 4, Jan. 6, W. D.)

2d Lieut. Philip P. Powell, further extended one month (S. O. 4, Jan. 10, W. D.)

1ST ARTILLERY, Colonel George P. Andrews.

1st Lieut. A. H. Merrill is temporarily assigned to duty with Bat. L, stationed at the Presidio of San Francisco, Cal. (S. O. 193, Dec. 26, M. D. P.)

The leave of absence for one month granted Capt. John C. White is, under the terms of the medical certificate the officer has received, converted into a sick leave, with authority to leave the Department. This sick leave is extended one month, and permission is given Capt. White to apply for a further extension of one month (S. O. 193, Dec. 26, M. D. P.)

2ND ARTILLERY, Colonel Romeyn B. Ayres.

Major F. L. Guenther is, under the authority contained in letter dated War Dept., A. G. O., Dec. 30, 1882, announced as on special duty at Hdqrs. Dept. of South, to date from Dec. 20, 1882 (G. O. 1, Jan. 4, D. E.)

Transfers.—The following transfers in the 2d Art. are made: 1st Lieut. Thomas D. Manrice, from Bat. K to Bat. B; 1st Lieut. Frank C. Grugan, from Bat. B to Bat. K (S. O. 4, Jan. 8, W. D.)

3RD ARTILLERY, Col. Frederick T. Dent.

Leave Extended.—2d Lieut. D. J. Rumbough, Fort Monroe, Va., one day (S. O. 4, Jan. 8, D. E.)

5TH ARTILLERY, Col. Henry J. Hunt.

On the mutual application of the officers concerned, the following transfers in the 5th Art. are made: Capt. Henry F. Brewerton, from Bat. C to Bat. K; Capt. Charles Morris, from Bat. K to C (S. O. 4, Jan. 10, W. D.)

Leave Extended.—Capt. Charles Morris, further extended three days (S. O. 3, Jan. 8, M. D. A.)

2ND INFANTRY, Colonel Frank Wheaton.

Leave Extended.—2d Lieut. Thomas H. Wilson, seven days (S. O. 195, Dec. 29, D. Columbia.)

4TH INFANTRY, Colonel William P. Carlin.

Leave of Absence.—One month, to apply for extension of two months, Capt. E. M. Coates (S. O. 1, Jan. 3, D. P.)

5TH INFANTRY, Colonel John D. Wilkins.

Leave of Absence.—Twenty-five days, 2d Lieut. John C. F. Tillson, at the expiration of which he will report in person at Hdqrs. Dept. of Dakota (S. O. 3, Jan. 4, D. D.)

Leave of absence from Nov. 20, 1882, to April 15, 1883, is granted 1st Lieut. Charles E. Hargous, in extension of the leave of absence granted him Oct. 25, 1882 (S. O. 4, Jan. 10, W. D.)

7TH INFANTRY, Colonel John Gibbon.

The C. O. Fort Pembina, D. T., will relieve 1st Lieut. F. M. H. Kendrick from duty as A. A. Q. M. of that post, who will proceed to Fort D. A. Russell, W. T., for duty (S. O. 2, Jan. 3, D. D.)

8TH INFANTRY, Col. August V. Kautz.

Leave of Absence.—Ten days, 1st Lieut. W. L. Pitcher, Benicia Bks, Cal. (S. O. 196, Dec. 23, D. Cal.)

Twenty days, Capt. William S. Worth, Fort McDermitt, Nev. (S. O. 197, Dec. 28, D. Cal.)

9TH INFANTRY, Colonel James Van Voast.

Capt. G. B. Russell, A. D. C., is permitted to purchase one public horse, at the price fixed by the Board instituted by par. 7, S. O. 139, D. T. (S. O. 141, Dec. 29, D. T.)

The journey performed by 1st Lieut. W. B. Pease, from Fort Sidney, Neb., to Fort D. A. Russell, Wyo., is approved (S. O. 3, Jan. 6, D. P.)

Leave Extended.—2d Lieut. C. C. Miner, seven days (S. O. 1, Jan. 3, D. P.)

10TH INFANTRY, Colonel Henry B. Clitz.

Capt. J. A. P. Hampson, president; Capt. F. E. Lacey, 1st Lieut. C. E. Bottsford, 2d Lieut. S. Y. Seyburn, H. C. Van Vliet, C. J. T. Clarke, members, and 1st Lieut. E. O. Gibson, J.-A. of G. C.-M. at Fort Wayne, Mich., Jan. 10 (S. O. 3, Jan. 6, D. E.)

12TH INFANTRY, Colonel Orlando B. Willcox.

Leave of Absence.—Fifteen days, Col. Orlando B. Willcox, Madison Bks, N. Y. (S. O. 4, Jan. 8, D. E.)

14TH INFANTRY, Col. Lewis C. Hunt.

The C. O. of Camp on White River, Colo., will grant a furlough for four months to Corp. Samuel Doeple, Co. K, to take effect after his re-enlistment (S. O. 1, Jan. 2, D. M.)

The C. O. of Camp on White River, Colo., will grant a furlough for two months to Corp. George Wellington, Co. K (S. O. 4, Jan. 5, D. M.)

Leave of Absence.—Two months, on Surg. certificate, to apply for extension of one month, and to go beyond the limits of the Dept. of Missouri, Capt. Charles B. Western, Cantonment on Uncompahgre, Colo. (S. O. 3, Jan. 9, M. D. M.)

Leave Extended.—2d Lieut. William B. Reynolds, further extended one month (S. O. 4, Jan. 6, W. D.)

15TH INFANTRY, Colonel George P. Buell.

Capt. W. T. Hartz, 2d Lieut. Jonn Cotter, B. C. Walsh, members, and 1st Lieut. W. O. Cory, J.-A. of G. C.-M. at Fort Lincoln, D. T., Jan. 10 (S. O. 3, Jan. 4, D. D.)

Leave Extended.—2d Lieut. Samuel S. Pague, Fort Randall, D. T., one month (S. O. 2, Jan. 5, M. D. M.)

2d Lieut. Will T. May, Fort Stevenson, D. T., ten days (S. O. 4, Jan. 5, D. D.)

17TH INFANTRY, Colonel Chas. C. Gilbert.

Lieut.-Col. O. H. Moore, president; Capt. L. H. Sanger, 1st Lieut. Josiah Chance, and 2d Lieut. Wm. English, members, G. C.-M. at Fort Lincoln, D. T., Jan. 10 (S. O. 3, Jan. 4, D. D.)

Leave Extended.—2d Lieut. Corwin Sage, further extended three days (S. O. 3, Jan. 9, M. D. M.)

21ST INFANTRY, Colonel Henry A. Morrow.

2d Lieut. Charles H. Bonesteel will proceed from Vancouver Bks to Portland, Ore., and return, on Dec. 23, on public business. The journey performed by Lieut. Bone

steel, from Vancouver Bks to Portland, Ore., and return, on Dec. 15, was upon public business, connected with his duties as A. A. Q. M. of the detachment of 21st Inf., constructing the Astoria and Fort Canby Military Telegraph Line (S. O. 192, Dec. 22, D. Columbia.)

2d Lieut. C. H. Bonesteel will proceed from Vancouver Bks to Portland, and return, on public business, Dec. 27 (S. O. 193, Dec. 26, D. Columbia.)

22ND INFANTRY, Colonel David S. Stanley.

1st Lieut. Theodore Mosher will, on Jan. 3, conduct a detachment of recruits from Fort Marcy to Antonito, N. M., and then report for duty with his company (S. O. 1, Jan. 2, D. N. M.)

Appointments, Promotions, Retirements, Transfers, Casualties, etc., of Commissioned Officers of the U. S. Army recorded in the Adjutant-General's Office during the week ending Saturday, January 6, 1883.

CASUALTIES.

Colonel Franklin D. Callender (retired)—Died December 13, 1882, at Daysville, Ogle County, Illinois.

Captain Benjamin D. Greene, Corps of Engineers—Resigned December 31, 1882.

Captain John D. Devin (retired)—Died December 31, 1882, at Washington, District of Columbia.

Captain Henry R. Silliman (retired)—Died January 1, 1883, at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

1st Lieutenant Charles L. Gurley, 6th Infantry—Resigned December 31, 1882.

2d Lieutenant Nathaniel J. Whitehead, 4th Infantry—Resigned January 1, 1883.

General Courts-Martial.—At Fort Lincoln, D. T., Jan. 10 Detail: Four officers of the 17th Inf., and four of the 15th Inf.

At Fort Wayne, Mich., Jan. 10. Detail: Seven officers of the 10th Inf., and one of the Med. Dept.

Special Inspectors Appointed.—Capt. Evan Miles, 21st Inf., at Fort Canby, Wash. T. (S. O. 192, Dec. 22, D. Columbia.)

Capt. Evan Miles, 21st Inf., at Fort Canby, W. T. (S. O. 194, Dec. 27, D. Columbia.)

Major John Green, 1st Cav., at Boise Bks, I. T. (S. O. 194, Dec. 27, D. Columbia.)

Journeys Confirmed.—The journeys performed by Major A. M. Randol, 1st Art., and Capt. Moses Harris, 1st Cav., as members of the Board of Officers convened by S. O. 170, Hdqrs. Mil. Div. of Pacific, Oct. 20, 1882, from the Presidio of San Francisco to San Francisco, and return, on Dec. 9, 11, 12, 18, and 19; from the Presidio of San Francisco to Sacramento, Cal., on Dec. 20; from Sacramento to Stockton, Cal., Dec. 21, and from Stockton to the Presidio of San Francisco, Dec. 22, 1882, are approved (S. O. 192, Dec. 22, M. D. P.)

Bread Ration.—The ration of bread to be issued to Co. K, 15th Inf., Fort A. Lincoln, D. T., is increased to 22 ounces, the company having been unable to provide itself with a supply of fresh vegetables (S. O. 1, Jan. 2, D. D.)

The bread ration of Light Bat. E, 1st Art., is increased to 22 ounces until May 31, 1883 (S. O. 193, Dec. 22, D. Columbia.)

Recruiting Rendezvous, Dept. of Missouri.—A recruiting rendezvous is established at Fort Hays, Kas., where enlistments and re-enlistments may be made for any company and regiment serving in the Dept. of Missouri—no matter where stationed—at the choice of the recruit. 2d Lieut. H. B. Moon, Jr., 20th Inf., is detailed as the recruiting officer and will perform the duties in addition to his other ones (S. O. 2, Jan. 3, D. M.)

Military Academy.—The resignation of Conditional Cadet William M. Wright, 4th Class, has been accepted by the Secretary of War (S. O., Jan. 8, W. D.)

Military Prisoners.—It having been discovered that the proceedings of the G. C. M. in the case of Private Thomas McHugh, Troop A, 3d Cav., who was tried at Fort Thomas, A. T., Sept. 22, 1882, are fatally defective, in that they fail to show that the court and judge-advocate were sworn, the sentence as published in G. C. M. O. 11, D. A., is declared null and void (S. O. 187, Dec. 26, D. A.)

Upon the recommendation of his company commander, the unexpired portion of the sentence awarded Private Edward Coen, Co. A, 9th Inf., is remitted (S. O. 2, Jan. 4, D. P.)

The portion of the confinement in the case of general prisoner Theodore Wise, private, Troop C, 1st Cav., remaining unexecuted Jan. 3, 1883, is remitted (G. C. M. O. 122, Dec. 21, D. Cal.)

So much of the sentence of a G. C. M. in the case of Private James Wilson, Co. E, 10th Inf., as remains unexecuted on Feb. 22, 1883, is remitted (G. C. M. O. 3, Jan. 5, D. E.)

So much of the unexecuted portion of the sentence, as relates to confinement, in the case of Private George Branch, Troop D, 8th Cav., is remitted (S. O. 2, Jan. 4, D. T.)

Lanterns and Lamps.—In War Department letter dated Jan. 11, 1883, the Adjutant General of the Army states "there is no objection to the sale of lanterns to officers under the provisions of par. 12, G. O. No. 50, of 1881, a lantern being considered a lamp within the meaning of that paragraph."

DEPARTMENT NEWS.

Department of Dakota.—The Helena Independent of December 28 says: A detachment of troops left Fort Assiniboine on December 13 for the Marias to deal with the cattle killing, horse stealing Piegans. Lieuts. O'Brien, McClure, Leahy, and Fuller, with their commands, are of the expedition, as also Post-Surg. R. B. Benham. The presence of the latter indicates that a brush with the redskins is anticipated.

Department of Missouri.—The Leavenworth Times says: The employees of the garrison are always to the front when an act of charity can be done. Elias Humbert, one of the employees there, met with the loss of his wife, the mother of six children, last week. A paper was soon started and \$57.15 were collected.

Company A, 4th Infantry, had a fine dinner Jan. 1. Boiled chicken, potatoes, stewed corn, tomatoes, dumplings, pickles, mince pie, jelly roll and jelly cake, bread, butter, cheese, and coffee, were the bill of fare. Serg. Mitchell is in charge of the mess of this company, and also provided an excellent dinner on Thanksgiving and Christmas day for them. All recruits will now enlist for Co. A. Lieut. Merriman is its commander.

The Leavenworth Times of January 6 says: "The em-

ployees of Mr. Keeling, at the post trader's store, showed the high appreciation in which they held Mr. Keeling and his lady by presenting them with an elegant crystal set of forty-five pieces, on the fifteenth anniversary of their marriage, which event occurred yesterday. Mr. Keeling has a host of friends throughout the Army, and they will be glad to learn of the esteem in which he is held by his employees, and will wish him many happy returns."

Department of the East.—A correspondent at Plattsburg Barracks sends us the following dinner bill of fare of Co. "I," 12th U. S. Infantry (Craigie's) Christmas and New Year's days:

Breakfast. Ham and eggs, corned beef hash, hot buttered rolls, waffles with maple syrup, coffee, tea, etc.

Dinner. Roasts: round of beef, tenderloin of beef, loin of mutton, pork stuffed, turkey stuffed (olives and oysters) served with cranberry sauce and current jelly. Boiled: mess pork, mutton, beef, ham (Whitickers), served with jelly. Entrees: baked pork and beans, pressed corned beef, stewed kidneys. Vegetables: potatoes (mashed), and baked with roast beef, cabbage boiled, turnips boiled, and baked with meat, carrots stewed (cream sauce), beets boiled and pickled, tomatoes stewed, cold slaw, parsnips boiled and baked. Pastry: mince pie, green apple pie, cranberry pie, lemon pie. Dessert: plum duff (a la 12th Infantry), blanc mange, nuts assorted, raisins, apples, coffee, tea, sweet cider, etc.

Supper. Cold roast beef, roast mutton, roast turkey, boiled ham, fillet of beef. Pastry: mince pie, cranberry pie, green apple pie, blanc mange, tea and coffee. *Drum Vindex, Vindex.*

New Year's Dinner. Roasts: round of beef, rib of beef, saddle of mutton, pork stuffed, served with apple sauce and currant jelly. Boiled: mutton, beef, ham (York), served with jelly. Entrees: baked pork and beans, pressed corned beef, stewed kidneys. Vegetables: potatoes mashed and baked, cabbage boiled, turnips boiled, parsnips boiled and baked, tomatoes stewed, carrots stewed (cream sauce), cold slaw, beets pickled. Pastry: mince pie, green apple pie, cranberry pie, lemon pie. Dessert: plum duff (a la 12th Infantry), blanc mange, nuts, raisins, bon bons, coffee, Rochester beer, etc.

Captain Craigie, his officers, and his 1st sergeant are to be envied at having the supervision of such repasts.

Despite the snow and cold the ball at the cozy little theatre at Fort Columbus, N. Y. H., on Wednesday evening, Jan. 10, given by comrades and friends for the benefit of Privates Clunas and Sidner, 5th Art., maimed for life at the explosion at Castle Williams last September, was a success financially and artistically. Many of the officers and ladies of the post were present. The grand march led by Lieuts. Coffin and Johnson commenced at tattoo, and after that came dancing, which was kept up with spirit until the early morn. Several sympathetic marines from the New York Navy-yard were present, and added variety to the scene. The gallant 5th, at Fort Hamilton, Wadsworth, etc., was well represented, and the regimental band, which furnished the music, lent efficient aid to the general success. As we remarked on the recent occasion of the dramatic entertainment for the benefit of these unfortunate soldiers, officers, ladies, soldiers, etc., have done everything possible to help them along in their disabled condition.

Department of the Columbia.—The Vancouver Independent of December 28 says: "Fort Spokane and Coeur d'Alene, it is reported, are to be consolidated at Spokane Falls. Nothing of the kind has been proposed, or even heard of, at military headquarters. It is evident that the 'reliable informant' of rebellion days is getting in his work at Spokane Falls. Among the holiday amusements at the Barracks this week was an amateur theatrical performance on Tuesday evening, at which were given the very pretty plays of 'The Love of a Lover' and 'A Kiss in the Dark.' For amateur theatricals they were well rendered, and well received by the large audience in the Sully Theatre. The cast of characters was as follows: 'The Love of a Lover'—Peter Spyk, Lieut. Rodman; Stryzel, Lieut. Williams; Capt. Amerafoot, Lieut. Parke; Delve, Lieut. Sparrow; Gertrude, Mrs. Baldwin; Ernestine Rosendahl, Mrs. Bonesteel. 'A Kiss in the Dark'—Mr. Pettibone, Major Cushing; Frank Pathon, Lieut. Sparrow; Mrs. Pettibone, Miss Lee Boyle; Mary, Mrs. Duncan; Unknown Female, Mrs. Ross.

The children of the officers of the post were treated to a Christmas tree, with all its joyful accompaniments, on Monday night, at the garrison hall.

Last evening several soldiers of the 21st Infantry gave a concert at the Sully Theatre, as part of the holiday amusements, but we go to press too early for comment."

ARMY ORDERS TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION. First Serg. Daniel Slesinger, Battery "K," 5th Artillery, and 1st Serg. F. E. Paris, Battery "K," 2d Artillery, will report on the 16th inst., to 1st Lieut. W. H. Coffin, 5th Artillery, at Fort Columbus, N. Y. H., as witnesses in cases pending before a General Court Martial (S. O. D. E. Jan. 12).

THE GREELY EXPEDITION.

A DESPATCH of Jan. 11, from General Terry to the Secretary of War, gives the names of the persons selected from the Department of Dakota to take part in the expedition to be sent out for the relief of Lieut. Greely and his party, Lady Franklin Bay. The detail consists of a commissioned officer and four enlisted men, chosen as especially well qualified for the duties which will be required of them. Notwithstanding the selection was restricted, there had been no lack of applications, and ever since the call for volunteers was issued a month ago, the list has been lengthening until it included the names of more than 200 persons.

First Lieut. Ernest A. Garlington, 7th Cavalry has been selected to command the expedition. The others are Serg. John Kelly, Troop I, 7th Cavalry; Corp. Frank Elwell, Co. E, 3d Infantry; Co. F. Moritz, Co. A, 17th Infantry; and Private J. J. Murphy, Co. F, 11th Infantry. Three of these have been chosen with special reference to their physical qualifications. Lieut. Garlington is less than thirty years old, above the average height, with a strong, well built, soldierly physique. He is intelligent and possesses [more than ordinary] quickness and energy. He is considered by all who know him to be especially adapted for such a command. In addition to Lieut. Garlington and the men mentioned above, four others have been selected, and with two men from the signal corps and a medical officer, will comprise the party. It is proposed that the expedition shall leave St. John, Newfoundland, about June 15 next, so as to take advantage of all favorable conditions of the ice and if possible reach Discovery Harbor. Should this not be possible, the vessel will land the stores at Life Boat Cove and return southward. The party will then establish itself itself for the winter and endeavor to open communication with Lieut. Greely by sledges and assist him in his retreat from Lady Franklin Bay.

The station of Life Boat Cove would not likely be kept up longer than August, 1883, when a vessel would bring the entire party away. Should the vessel sent in 1883 reach Lieut. Greely and his party furnished with the necessary supplies, it will then be desirable that the station at Lady Franklin Bay be maintained at least one year longer, in order to realize the full purposes for which it was originally established.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

FORT CONCHO, TEXAS.

JANUARY 4, 1883.

By taking a retrospective view of the past, our Christmas holidays at Fort Concho were made much brighter. Those of us who lived in that overcrowded, dilapidated old bulk of a post, one year ago, are rejoicing in the improvements which Colonel Hough and his efficient quartermaster, Captain Richards, have made.

The Juniors have made their last bow to the attic ceilings, kitchen odors have been brought down to their proper level, and the sonorous breathing of our sleeping neighbor, across the narrow hall above, is heard no more. Preceding the holidays several enjoyable hops were given, managed by Lieutenant Hunt, 10th U. S. Cavalry. Captain Kelly, of the 10th, gave a dance and supper in honor of some friends—a very pleasant entertainment, in which the common manner of presenting "table favors" was reversed. On Christmas eve Major McFellin, at present commanding, invited the officers and their families to his house. There was a number of children present, and for each child the good major had a handsome gift. Next on the programme was a matinee for the children of the enlisted men, held in the chapel. Dancing, games, and tempting bags of candy filled the measure of the little ones, happiness from 4 till 6.

New Year's passed quietly. The commanding officer and a few of the ladies received. We have had an abundance of venison and wild turkey, though hunters complain of a scarcity of game this season. Some excellent shooting was done by one party—an officer killing two antelopes at nine hundred yards, firing but two shots.

E. J. P.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

FORT CUSTER, MONTANA.

December 27.

Christmas met with the usual recognition at this post, and a Gloria in Excelsis Deo time has been enjoyed by all. The officers and ladies worked indefatigably to suitably decorate the hall and prepare a Christmas tree for the ninety odd children of the garrison and vicinity, to furnish which they had subscribed and expended something more than \$100. The Christmas eve celebration took place on Saturday, Lieut. Burdon, 5th Infantry, taking the role of Santa Claus. It was a great pleasure to see the little ones step up and receive the toys, candies, and useful articles as plucked from the glittering, illuminated tree, or extract from the grab-bag the things of wonder and beauty to their young minds. The festive board, or menu, of the different companies on Christmas day was excelled by none previous in our experience. A merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you in the present and in the future.

B.

RECENT DEATHS.

GEN. ANTONIO EUGENE ALFRED CHANZY, of the French army and a life Senator of France, whose sudden death at Chalons January 4 we briefly noted last week, was one of the most popular of the soldiers and statesmen of France, and had several times been named for the Presidency of the republic by his enthusiastic friends, although he had never presented himself as a candidate for that high office. He was born at Nourat, a small village in the Ardennes, March 18, 1823, the son of a captain of cuirassiers under the First Empire. At the age of sixteen he entered the Navy as an apprentice on board the *Neptune*, and in this capacity accompanied the squadron of Admiral de Lalande in the East in 1839 and 1840. On his return to France he left the Navy and was admitted to the military school of St. Cyr in 1841, leaving there as lieutenant of Zouaves in 1843. Since that date, both as a soldier and a statesman, he has been closely identified with public affairs. He was decorated with the Legion of Honor in 1852, became an officer in 1860, and a Commander and Grand Officer in 1872. He was decorated with the grand cross in 1878. He published one book during his life, under the title of "The Second Army of the Loire," in which he gave the history of his military operations during the Franco Prussian war. The death of Gen. Chanzy following so closely upon that of Gambetta has created much excitement and greater sorrow in France. Both were prominent men, and both had a future greater than the past, before them.

INTELLIGENCE was received early this week of the death, at Nice, France, Jan. 8, of Lieut. Samuel F. Clarkson, U. S. N., of the *Lancaster*. The deceased officer was a native of New York; entered the Naval Academy Sept. 20, 1862; was graduated 1866; in 1867 was on the North Atlantic Station; promoted ensign in April, 1868, during which year he was on ordnance duty at Boston. He served on the *Onward*, of the Pacific Fleet, in 1869 and 1870; was promoted master March 20, 1869, and lieutenant March 21, 1870. Since then he served on the Coast Survey, on special service, on the *Trenton*, flag ship of the European Station. He joined the *Lancaster* in 1881.

PASSED ASSISTANT ENGINEER WILSON K. PURSE, U. S. N., who died suddenly at Philadelphia December 30, as stated last week, entered the Navy as third assistant engineer August 12, 1863, was promoted second assistant September 21, 1861, and first assistant March 11, 1863. He was placed on the retired list June 16, 1874.

THE Hon. Lot M. Morrill, prominent in public life as Governor, Senator, etc., for many years, died at Augusta, Me., January 10. The members of his family, including his daughter, Mrs. Dunn, and son-in-law, Major W. McK. Dunn, U. S. A., recently recalled from Europe by the serious illness of Mr. Morrill, were present at the death bed.

PAYMASTER J. S. WITHER, U. S. A., has got settled in San Francisco, and is much pleased with his station. He visited Fort Bidwell, Cal., this week, and while there paid the troops and sat as member of a court-martial.

QUARTERMASTER J. W. SULLY, U. S. A., visited New York the latter part of this week from Fort Adams, R. I., on public business.

FORTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS—2D SESSION.

S. 1844, for relief of Fitz John Porter, was passed Jan. 11.

In the Senate Jan. 5 S. 1254, for the relief of Capt. W. J. Lyster, 19th U. S. Infantry, was passed with an amendment, making the bill read: "That there be paid to Capt. W. J. Lyster, of the 19th U. S. Infantry, the sum of \$461, as full compensation for his property destroyed by fire at Camp Supply while he was engaged on duty with his company in guarding the public property and unable to care for or attend to his personal effects." The sum was originally \$677, but payment was allowed for such articles as properly belonged to a military outfit. The bill was opposed by Mr. Jones of Florida, and Mr. Ingalls on the ground that it would establish the principle that the Government as an insurer of the personal property of officers against fire. Mr. Ingalls also asked what had been done in the cases of 2d Lieut. John A. Payne and Private Julius Steinmayer, Co. B, 19th Infantry, the amounts of whose loss at the same fire were given as, respectively, \$856.25 and \$16.03. Mr. Hampton, replying, said that the Committee struck everything out not pertaining to a soldier's proper and necessary outfit, and that as the bills pertaining to Lieut. Payne and Private Steinmayer, they have referred to the Committee, the Secretary of War sending them to the other House. "The action of the committee," he added, "is in strict accordance with the precedents which have been established here time and again, that when an officer loses anything by fire, if he is not blamable, Congress has made good the loss so far as the military outfit was concerned." The bill was passed 26 to 20.

The Senate, Jan. 9, passed the bill providing for the case of Presidential inability reported by Senator Hoar. The bill provides that, in case of the death or inability of both the President and Vice President, a member of the Cabinet shall hold the office until the disability is removed, or until the vacancy is otherwise filled, and the succession is regulated in the following order: Secretary of State, Treasury, War, Attorney General, Postmaster General, Secretary of the Navy and Secretary of the Interior.

The Senate Committee on Military Affairs held its first meeting since the holidays this week. All the pending nominations, including those of the Medical Department, were agreed upon.

The following bills were acted upon and reported to the Senate favorably without amendment:

H. R. 1926, to amend section 1860 of the R. S., so as not to exclude retired Army officers from holding civil office in the Territories.

S. 2239, granting right for railroad purposes and telegraph lines through the Fort Smith military reservation in the State of Kansas.

The following were adversely acted upon and reported:

S. 2233, to establish a home for indigent soldiers and sailors of the Army and Navy in the State of Kansas.

S. 1670, to give Wm. B. Stokes, late colonel of the 1st regiment Middle Tennessee Cavalry, the benefit of the three months pay provided for officers who should be honorably discharged after the close of the war.

S. 1495, to give difference of pay to Lieut. James S. Grubb, late of the 31st Indiana Volunteers.

S. 1888, to fix the date of entry into the military service and to correct the record of officers now in the Regular Army who served as officers of Volunteers and Regular Army.

On this bill the committee submit a report as follows: "Your committee do not believe that it is within the reasonable power of Congress, in fact, life is too short to undertake to minutely review and reconsider and remedy anew all the seeming or imagined grievances of every officer now in the Regular Army in regard to dates of entry into service and relative rank, etc., after the lapse of 17 years from the close of the late war and the disbanding of the large number of officers in the volunteer service, and the reorganization and reduction of the Regular Army. The present dates of entry into service and relative rank of all the officers now in the service, have been known and accepted and acted upon for years. They have been nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate, and have accepted. There must be an end to legislation upon these questions or confusion worse than confounded, strife and contention will exist and increase with every act of legislation. The time of Congress and the valuable time of the officers of the Army can be more profitably and pleasantly employed than in overhauling existing statutes. Let peace prevail in the Army in civil life. Your committee recommend that the bill and the whole subject matter therein referred to be indefinitely postponed."

They also incorporate in their report the opinions on the subject of the Secretary of War, Gen. Sherman, and Gen. Drum, to whom they had written for information. These authorities all express objection to the measure. Gen. Sherman says: "The real object of rank in the Army is to fix responsibility when troops come together for action. During the Civil War of 1861-5, the regular Army was swallowed up by vast assemblages of State and National troops, and at its close, or soon thereafter, the vast mass of the State and National volunteers was mustered out of service and discharged. Out of this wreck was reorganized a new and much smaller Army for a peace establishment. New generals, colonels, captains, and lieutenants were chosen by boards or by processes prescribed by then existing laws, and the new officers were confirmed by the Senate, their relative rank established, not necessarily by length of service in their previous volunteer commissions, but by merit real or supposed."

"This new establishment has been subjected to many changes, and now to go back of the reorganizations of 1866 and 1869, and introduce a new principle to date present commissions back to dates during the Civil War, will create confusion worse confounded. I doubt if it is possible. I am sure it is not practicable to apply the

principle laid down in Senate bill 1888 herewith, if it should unfortunately become a law. I therefore express the hope that Congress will not disturb the present rank of officers in the Army in the hope of correcting some seeming cases of hardship unavoidable at the time of reorganization. Better meet these cases, if any there be, by money compensation."

The Senate Military Committee, Jan. 12, ordered to be favorably reported the Logan bill to increase the efficiency of the Army. The number of enlisted men in the Army, including an Engineer battalion of 520 men, hospital stewards, and 1,000 Indian scouts, is fixed at 30,000. The bill will be found in full in JOURNAL of Dec. 23 last, p. 472.

Mr. Kellogg in the Senate Jan. 5, submitted a resolution, which was agreed to, directing the Secretary of State to transmit to the Senate copies of any letters on file in his department from the consular service upon the subject of the shipment and discharge of seamen or payment of extra wages to seamen.

Jan. 5 the Senate received a communication from the President transmitting a letter from the Secretary of War, dated the 2d inst., enclosing one from Lieut. Robt. Craig, 4th Artillery, endorsed by the Chief Signal Officer of the Army, recommending that Congress authorize the printing and binding for the use of the Signal Office of 10,000 copies of the annual report of the Chief Signal Officer for the fiscal year 1882, and enclosing a draft of a joint resolution for the purpose.

Mr. Windom, from the Committee on Foreign Relations in the Senate on the 5th, reported adversely on S. R. 117, authorizing Capt. Geo. E. Belknap to accept a decoration from the King of the Hawaiian Islands. Mr. Morgan, from the same Committee, reported back favorably without amendment S. R. 120 granting permission to Ensign L. K. Reynolds, U. S. N., to accept decoration of Francis Joseph from Austria. "The conduct of this young gentleman," he added, "was so conspicuous for its heroism that I shall ask the Senate to-morrow to consider this resolution."

On the 9th the joint resolution was passed, after debate. Mr. Morgan presented letters and reports detailing the heroism for which the order was given. The Minister of Austria wrote last June to the Secretary of State, explaining that "Lieut. L. K. Reynolds, U. S. N., having displayed almost unexampled bravery, this gallant officer having succeeded in 1880, while on board the U. S. frigate *Constellation*, to save, at imminent peril to himself and during a furious gale, the crew of the Austrian bark *Olivo* (12 men), which heroic act has been reported by the Austrian naval board of Trieste to the I. R. ministry of commerce, a cabinet council had unanimously passed the resolution, subject to His Majesty's approval, that the I. R. Order of Francis Joseph be awarded to Lieut. L. K. Reynolds, as an acknowledgment of his gallantry and noble intrepidity. In consequence thereof the I. and R. foreign office had instructed this legation in January last to ascertain whether the said officer would be allowed to accept that position."

In a subsequent communication, replying to an inquiry from the State Department, the Minister said:

"The Austrian Order of Francis Joseph gives no right whatever to the owner to any title of nobility or rank, as the other Austrian decorations do. The order has been established by His Majesty, the actual Emperor, for the sole purpose of rewarding real merit, and bears, therefore, his august name. There are three memberships, namely, Knight-Cross, Commander-Cross and Grand-Cross. The one upon whom the decoration is conferred calls himself member of the respective degree. His obligation consists only in declaring to let return the insignia, after his death, by his heirs. Austria has also a simple gold and silver cross of merit for similar rewards, but on account of the gallant deed of Mr. L. K. Reynolds, and of his social position as a naval officer of the United States, the higher distinction has certainly been chosen."

In March, 1880, the Life Saving-Benevolent Association of New York and the Humane Society of Massachusetts conferred on the officer gold medals. Shortly before the resolution passed the Senate, Mr. Anthony said: "Some time ago there were a number of these bills before the Senate, and they lingered a long time, and finally they were passed in one general bill, with a provision restricting the officers against wearing the orders on their person." Having been told that this comes under that law, he added: "I make this inquiry only because I think all should be served alike. I did not altogether approve of that general restriction, but still I think if it applies to one, it should apply to all."

In the Senate, on the 5th, Mr. Vest introduced, from the Committee on Territories, with a report, S. 2317, to amend sections 2474 and 2475 of the Revised Statutes, in regard to the Yellowstone Park. He said: "It will be remembered by the Senate that this national park, containing some 3,800 square miles, was set apart and dedicated as a public park of the people of the United States by an act of Congress passed in 1872. Recently the Interior Department has made a contract with certain persons, some three or four gentlemen, by which exclusive privileges were given to this company, or corporation, or association, for the erection of a hotel building in that park, the lease to extend for ten years, being really a monopoly exclusive in its character. A resolution was adopted at the commencement of this session by the Senate, asking the Secretary of the Interior to transmit this contract to the Senate, with any other information he might see proper to transmit to the Senate. His reply was received and referred to the Committee on Territories, and this report, after full investigation, is the result of the inquiry made by the committee in regard to that contract. I ask each Senator, as this is a matter not local at all in its character, but important and interesting to the people of every State in the whole Union, to give his attention to this report and to this bill; and I give notice now that, as early as the business of the Senate will permit, I shall call up this bill for the consideration and action of the Senate."

Secretary Chandler, Jan. 8, in response to Senate resolution of Dec. 20, directing the Secretary of the Navy to communicate to the Senate whether or not any further appropriation of public money is necessary to put the Pensacola Navy-yard in a state of efficiency, the present condition of the yard, etc., states that further appropriation would be necessary if it were determined to put the yard in a state of efficiency. He says the four sections of the dry dock now at said yard are not in a condition to be used, the machinery not being in, nor the side walls well erected. Two more sections will be required to make the dock thoroughly efficient. It is not therefore in a condition to be employed for the purpose for which it was constructed.

In the Senate, Jan. 9, a communication was received from the Secretary of War transmitting, in answer to a resolution of March 9, 1882, information relating to the Sturgeon Bay and Lake Michigan Ship Canal, in the State of Wisconsin, together with a report from the Bureau of Engineers as to the cost of the same.

In the Senate, Jan. 9, Mr. Dawes, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, reported a bill (S. 2336) to accept and ratify an agreement made by the Pah-Ute Indians, and granting a right of way to the Carson and Colorado Railroad Company through the Walker River Reservation in Nevada. Mr. Cockrell, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported adversely the bill (S. 1888) to fix the date of entry into the military service and to correct the record of officers now in the regular Army who served as officers of volunteers and regular Army. The bill was postponed indefinitely. He also reported and recommended the passage of S. 2239, granting right of way for railroad purposes and telegraph through the lands of the United States included in the Fort Smith Military Reservation at Fort Smith, Arkansas. "At the last session," he explained, "we granted the right of way to the Saint Louis and San Francisco Railway through the Choctaw Nation into Texas. The road is completed now to Fort Smith, to the edge of this military reservation, which has long since been abandoned and turned over to the Interior Department. The Interior Department and the War Department both approve of the bill and recommend its passage." Mr. Grover, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported without amendment H. R. 1926, to amend section 1860 of the Revised Statutes, so as not to exclude retired Army officers from holding civil office in the Territories.

Jan. 4, the following resolution submitted in the Senate by Mr. Cockrell was agreed to: "That the Secretary of War be directed to report to the Senate, as soon as possible, the number, calibre, weight, and value of all cast-iron cannon on hand condemned or unfit for use, and not heretofore disposed of or appropriated."

On the 9th, Mr. Vest offered the following resolution, which was agreed to: "Resolved, That the Secretary of the Interior be directed to transmit to the Senate copies of all letters or other communications in his Department in regard to the contracts made with certain parties concerning the Yellowstone National Park, and especially any official correspondence with the superintendent of the park in regard to the propriety of leasing the same."

The Senate Committee on Pensions reported favorably the bill restoring to the pension roll Mary J. Stover, saying: "The claimant is the daughter of the late President Andrew Johnson, and was pensioned as the widow of the late Col. Daniel Stover, of the 4th Tennessee Volunteers, at \$30 per month, commencing April 21, 1860. On the 20th of April, 1869, the claimant married William R. Brown, when her name was dropped from the pension rolls. On the 19th of February, 1876, she was divorced from the said W. R. Brown by a decree of the Chancery Court for Greene county, Tenn., and was restored to her former name, Mary J. Stover. The military service of the claimant's first husband being clearly established and also from the fact that she is the daughter of a late President of the United States, your committee are of the opinion that the claimant should be granted a pension as in other like cases, notwithstanding her second marriage."

In the House, Jan. 6, S. 163 was passed. It authorizes the President to nominate, and with the consent of the Senate, to place on the retired list the name of Herman Biggs, with the rank of captain of staff, this being the actual rank in the Regular Army held by him when in action he received the wound from which he suffers permanent disability. Provided that no pay or allowances shall accrue or be paid said Biggs under this act prior to his confirmation. The committee in reporting the bill explained: "In Oct., 1865, Col. Biggs (who was wounded at Newbern, March 14, 1863), feeling that with his health restored, as he then anticipated rest and care would restore it, it ill became him to live upon the bounty of the Government, determined to and did surrender his commission, relying upon himself for his support. Time has developed his wound into a permanent, painful disability, unfitting him for the business life he had mapped out for his future; financial reverses have befallen him, and, shattered in health and unable to earn a livelihood, he now asks as a favor of the Government what he had a right to demand at the time of his resignation."

Mr. Robinson, of New York, in the House, Jan. 2, submitted the following resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs:

Resolved, That the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy be directed respectively to inform this House whether any officer of the Army or Navy has been detailed to wait upon the representatives or relatives of monarchs or emperors travelling through this country, and, if so, by what authority.

In the House, Jan. 4, Talbot, sought to introduce, but objection was made, the following joint resolution: "That the President of the United States is hereby authorized and requested to select from the Army and Navy five officers who shall constitute a board for the purpose of examining and reporting to Congress which of the navy-yards or arsenals owned by the Government has the best location and is best adapted for the establishment of a Government foundry for the manufacture of

ordnance adapted to modern warfare, for the use of the Army and Navy of the United States, the cost of all buildings, tools, and implements necessary to be used in the manufacture thereof, including the cost of a steam hammer of sufficient size for the manufacture of the heaviest guns, and that the President is further requested to report to Congress the finding of said board at as early a date as possible."

In the House, Jan. 5, Mr. Mills reported from committee private bill H. R. 3124, giving the Court of Claims jurisdiction to hear and determine the claims of John Mellifont and Ellen Riordon for damages sustained by them because of the illegal acts of the officers and soldiers of the U. S. in taking, killing, and ordering off the stock of the above named, destroying their fences and buildings, near Fort Clark, Texas, between 1866 and 1870. The committee recommended the passage of the bill, explaining that John Mellifont was a soldier in the U. S. A. from 1849 to 1854, that after his honorable discharge he settled near Fort Clark; that Mrs. Riordon is his sister and the widow of a soldier in the U. S. A.; that they were the joint owners of two ranches; that in 1866 the soldiers at Fort Clark began depredations on the property real and personal, and continued them for several years; that they took the stock when so inclined, and wantonly killed and wounded many of them; that Mellifont was therefore compelled to abandon his ranches. The committee add: "What the officer in command of the troops was doing while this gross wrong was being done systematically for years under his eyes does not appear. If the facts sworn to by many witnesses be true, he ought to be called to account." Mr. Van Voorhis objected to the consideration of the bill, saying "the United States is not liable for larcenies of soldiers." It, therefore, was not "before the House."

The report of the Board of Managers of the National Soldiers' Home, laid before the House, Dec. 29, estimates the necessary appropriation for the next fiscal year at \$1,122,088. The managers estimate that there will be 500 more inmates than last year, and submit with the report a list of 13,000 inmates. There were 680 taken in during the year, 200 more than 1881. The managers recommend that all laws requiring them to have anything to do with pensions be repealed, as their enforcement causes dissatisfaction among the inmates of the homes; they also renew the recommendation made last year that worthy destitute soldiers, even though they cannot trace their illness to service for the country, be admitted.

The report of the Mississippi River Commission was presented to Congress on Jan. 2. It embraces an account of the progress of surveys and construction and expenditures for each, with estimates for the next fiscal year; remarks on the subject of levees and outlets, and suggestions concerning legislation. From much of that part of the report which recommends levees, one member of the commission, General Comstock, dissents. He is of opinion that levees are of but little aid in the improvement of low water navigation. The same member doubts at present the advisability of raising levees on the banks of rivers above the present grades. The report is signed by C. B. Comstock, Lieut. Colonel of Engineers and president of the commission; Charles R. Suter, Major of Engineers; Henry Mitchell, Coast and Geodetic Survey; R. M. Herrod and Robert S. Taylor. A note explains that General Q. M. Gillmore has been prevented by severe illness from participating in the preparation of this report, and is at the date of signing unable to hear it read. The estimates in detail for the next fiscal year are: For works for contracting the channel and protecting caving banks on six reaches of the river, a length of one hundred and forty-eight miles; for carrying on work at the harbors of Vicksburg, Natchez and New Orleans; a lock at Bayou Plaquemine; the rectification of the Red and Atchafalaya rivers, and for closing crevasses and other outlets as an auxiliary to works of channel improvement, \$4,573,000.

An effort was made in the House on the 10th, to take up for consideration the bill to retire General Pleasanton, with rank of major-general, but objection being made it went over without action.

Secretary Lincoln transmitted to Congress on the 10th the reports of the heads of bureaus of the War Department showing the condition of the libraries of their respective officers in compliance with the provisions in the last Sundry Civil Appropriation bill. The reports show that the contents of the libraries consist mainly of technical and professional works, books of reference and Congressional documents. The Chief Signal Officer submits an estimate amounting to \$10,000 for the support of the library of the Signal Office. In regard to the library in the Secretary's office Secretary Lincoln says that it consists of 2,300 law books and books of reference, which are not permitted to be taken from the office, and 12,000 miscellaneous works are allowed to circulate among the officers and employees of the Department. It is estimated that \$1,000 per annum will maintain this library, and the Secretary recommends that amount be appropriated by Congress.

Secretary Lincoln transmitted to Congress, January 11, a copy of a letter from the Chief of Ordnance, and a copy of an accompanying letter from Lieut. Col. D. W. Flagler, commanding the Rock Island Arsenal, Ill., reporting that it will be impossible to finish the work of deepening the water-power tail-race canal at that arsenal with the amount appropriated for that purpose in the sundry civil appropriation bill of last session, and urgently recommending an immediate appropriation of \$20,000 for the completion of said work.

The House having non-concurred in the amendment of the Senate to the Military Academy Appropriation, and the Senate declining to recede from its amendments the following conferees have been appointed: Messrs. Regan, Blackburn and Butterworth on the part of the House, and Messrs. Logan, Ransom and Cockrell on the part of the Senate.

The Speaker, on the 9th, laid before the House a letter from the Secretary of the Navy, transmitting, in response to a House resolution of the 5th, the report of Passed Assistant Engineer John A. Tobin, U. S. N., on the latest improvements in naval engineering in Great Britain.

Petitions continue to be presented to Congress remonstrating against the discrimination made in appointments in the Army and Navy Medical Department against the homeopathic and other schools of medicine. They ask for legislation in behalf of the homeopaths.

Mr. Hutchins, Jan. 10, asked unanimous consent that the Committee of the Whole House on the Private Calendar be discharged from the further consideration of the bill (H. R. 5525) authorizing the President to

appoint and retire Alfred Pleasanton a major-general, and that the bill be now considered.

Mr. Burrows objected, and called for the regular order of business.

The Speaker, Jan. 10, laid before the House a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting a copy of a despatch from Comdr. E. C. Merriman, commanding the U. S. steamer *Adams*, relating to the condition of affairs in Alaska.

In the House, Jan. 12, Mr. McCook asked unanimous consent for the passage of the Senate bill authorizing the President to place Gen. Montgomery C. Meigs on the retired list of the Army with the pay of Major General. Mr. Springer suggested that the Fitz John Porter bill be also put upon its passage. Mr. McCook advocated the passage of his bill, but Mr. Thomas objected.

THE ARMY RETIRED LIST.

WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON CITY, JANUARY 2, 1883.

SIR: In compliance with your request, through Mr. Courts, assistant clerk of the Committee on Appropriations, I herewith transmit the report of the Adjutant General of officers on the retired list, retired for disability, with rank above that actually held by them when retired; list of officers retired for wounds on rank actually held when wounded, and list of officers retired with increased rank by special acts of Congress.

The preparation of these reports having required much time and labor, I beg to suggest that they be printed.

Very respectfully,

ROBERT T. LINCOLN, Secretary of War.

HON. BENJAMIN BUTTERWORTH,

Chairman Sub-Committee on Army Appropriation Bill.

List of officers now on the retired list of the Army who were retired because of disability on rank above that actually held, showing rank on retired list, rank in the volunteer force when retired, rank in the permanent establishment when retired, rank in the volunteer force when disabled, and actual command when disabled.

Name.	Rank on retired list.	Vol. rank when retired.	Rank in Regular Army when retired.	Vol. rank when disabled.	Actual command when disabled.
John C. Robinson.....	Major-Gen.	None...	Colonel of Inf.	Brig-Gen.....	Comdg. 2d Div., 5th Army Corps.
Daniel E. Sickles.....	Major-Gen.	None...	Colonel of Inf.	Major-Gen.....	Comdg. 3d Army Corps.
Samuel S. Carroll.....	Major-Gen.	None...	Lt.-Col. of Inf.	Col. 8th Ohio Inf.	Comdg. 2 brigades 2d Div., 2d Army Corps.
James B. Ricketts.....	Major-Gen.	None...	Major of Art.	Brig-Gen.....	Comdg. 6th Army Corps.
Thomas J. Wood*.....	Brig-Gen.	None...	Colonel of Cav.	Brig-Gen.....	Comdg. 1st Div., 14th Army Corps, and 2d Div. 4th Army Corps.
John B. McIntosh.....	Brig-Gen.	None...	Lt.-Col. of Inf.	Brig-Gen.....	Comdg. 1st Brig., 3d Div., cavalry corps, Army of the Potomac.
Richard W. Johnson†.....	Brig-Gen.	None...	Major of Cav.	Brig-Gen.....	Comdg. 1st Div., 14th Army Corps.
Thomas W. Sweeny.....	Brig-Gen.	None...	Major of Inf.	Col. 52d Ill. Inf.	Comdg. 3d Brig., 2d Div. Army of West Tennessee.
Martin D. Hardin.....	Brig-Gen.	None...	Major of Inf.	Col. 12th Pa. Inf.	Comdg. 2 regts. det. from the 3d Brig., 3d Div., 5th Army Corps.
Francis Fessenden.....	Brig-Gen.	None...	Captain of Inf.	Col. 30th Mo. Inf.	Comdg. 3d Brig., 1st Div., 19th Army Corps.
Eli Long†.....	Brig-Gen.	None...	Captain of Cav.	Brig-Gen.....	Comdg. 2d Div., cavalry corps, Mil. Div. Mississippi.
Edward W. Hinks.....	Colonel.....	None...	Lt.-Col. of Inf.	Col. 19th Mass. Inf.	Comdg. regiment.
Samuel H. Starr.....	Colonel.....	None...	Major of Cav.	None.....	Comdg. 6th U. S. Cavalry.
Elisha G. Marshall.....	Colonel.....	None...	Major of Inf.	Col. 13th N. Y. Inf.	Comdg. regiment.
Theoph. F. Rodenbough.....	Colonel.....	None...	Major of Inf.	None.....	Comdg. 2d U. S. Cavalry.
John R. Lewis.....	Colonel.....	None...	Major of Inf.	Lt.-Col. 5th Vt. Inf.	Comdg. regiment.
Theodore Yates.....	Colonel.....	None...	Captain of Inf.	Capt. 1st Mo. Inf.	Comdg. regiment.
Moses B. Walker.....	Colonel.....	None...	Captain of Inf.	Col. 31st Ohio Inf.	Comdg. regiment.
Robert L. Kilpatrick.....	Colonel.....	None...	Captain of Inf.	Lt.-Col. 5 Ohio Inf.	Comdg. regiment.
Andrew J. McNett.....	Colonel.....	None...	Captain of Inf.	Lt.-Col. 141st N. Y. Inf.	Comdg. regiment.
Isaac S. Catlin.....	Colonel.....	None...	Captain of Inf.	Col. 109th N. Y. Inf.	Comdg. regiment.
John Pulfors†.....	Colonel.....	None...	1 Lieut. of Inf.	Lt.-Col. 5 Mich. Inf.	Comdg. regiment.
Albert W. Preston‡.....	Colonel.....	None...	1 Lieut. of Cav.	Capt. 25th N. Y. Inf.	Comdg. regiment.
Thomas E. Maley§.....	Lieut.-Col.	None...	Captain of Cav.	None.....	Comdg. hqrs. and 8 companies 5th U. S. Cavalry.
Thomas Shea.....	Lieut.-Col.	None...	Captain of Inf.	Maj. 22d Ind. Inf.	Comdg. regt.; the regt. below the minimum strength and not equal to the command of a colonel.
George W. Gile**.....	Lieut.-Col.	None...	Captain of Inf.	Lt.-Col. 88 Pa. Inf.	Comdg. regiment.
Robert Avery.....	Lieut.-Col.	None...	1 Lieut. of Inf.	Lt.-Col. 102d N. Y. Inf.	Comdg. ten companies.
Robert C. Perry.....	Lieut.-Col.	None...	1 Lieut. of Inf.	Capt. 111 N. Y. Inf.	Comdg. regt.; the regt. below minimum strength and not equal to the command of a colonel.
Joseph C. Clark, Jr.....	Major.....	None...	Captain of Art.	None.....	Comdg. four batteries of artillery.
Samuel P. Lee.....	Major.....	None...	Captain of Inf.	Maj. 3d Me. Inf.	That of his rank.
Alfred Townsend.....	Captain.....	None...	1 Lieut. of Inf.	None.....	Comdg. company.
Paul Quirk.....	Captain.....	None...	1 Lieut. of Cav.	None.....	Comdg. company.
Adam Badeau.....	Captain.....	None...	1 Lieut. of Inf.	Capt. A. D. G.	A. D. G. on staff of major-general.
John F. Cleghorn.....	Captain.....	None...	1 Lieut. of Inf.	Capt. 20th Ill. Inf.	Comdg. company.
Fred. C. Von Schirach.....	Captain.....	None...	1 Lieut. of Inf.	2 Lieut. 54 N. Y. Inf.	Comdg. company.
John M. Hoag.....	Captain.....	None...	1 Lieut. of Inf.	1 Lieut. U. S. C. Inf.	Comdg. company.
John Kelliher.....	Captain.....	None...	1 Lieut. of Inf.	Capt. 20 Mass. Inf.	Comdg. company.
Richard W. Tyler.....	Captain.....	None...	1 Lieut. of Inf.	1 Lieut. 1 U. S. S. S.	Comdg. company.
George D. Hill.....	Captain.....	None...	1 Lieut. of Inf.	3 Lieut. 1 Mich. Cav.	Comdg. company.
Alanson E. Niles.....	Captain.....	None...	1 Lieut. of Inf.	Capt. 1 Pa. Rifles.	Comdg. company.
Jacob W. Keller.....	Captain.....	None...	1 Lieut. of Inf.	1 Lieut. 5 N. H. Inf.	Comdg. company.
Edwin C. Gaskill.....	Captain.....	None...	1 Lieut. of Inf.	1 Lieut. 36 U. S. C. Inf.	Comdg. company.
William J. Dawes.....	Captain.....	None...	1 Lieut. of Inf.	Capt. 8th Wis. Inf.	Comdg. company.
William R. Bourne.....	Captain.....	None...	1 Lieut. of Inf.	Capt. 44 N. Y. Inf.	Comdg. company.
Wellington G. Sprague.....	Captain.....	None...	2 Lieut. of Inf.	Capt. 1 U. S. C. Inf.	Comdg. company.
George E. Judd.....	Captain.....	None...	2 Lieut. of Inf.	1 Lieut. 3 Mich. Inf.	Comdg. company.
William P. Atwell.....	Captain.....	None...	2 Lieut. of Inf.	1 Lieut. 37 Wis. Inf.	Comdg. company.
William S. Johnson.....	Captain.....	None...	2 Lieut. of Inf.	Capt. 1st Ark. Cav.	Comdg. company.
James B. Sinclair††.....	Captain.....	None...	2 Lieut. of Inf.	2 Lieut. 79 N. Y. Inf.	Comdg. company.
Charles W. Keyes.....	1st Lieut.	None...	2 Lieut. of Inf.	1 Lieut. 32 Me. Inf.	That of 1st Lieutenant.
Henry H. Kuhn‡‡.....	1st Lieut.	None...	2 Lieut. of Inf.	1 Lieut. 23 U. S. C. T.	Comdg. company.

* Retired with rank of major-general June 9, 1868; reduced to rank of brigadier-general by operation of act of March 3, 1875.

† Retired with rank of major-general October 12, 1867; reduced to rank of brigadier-general by operation of act of March 3, 1875.

‡ Retired with rank of major-general August 16, 1867; reduced to rank of brigadier-general by operation of act of March 3, 1875.

§ Retired with rank of colonel December 15, 1870; reduced to rank of lieutenant-colonel by operation of act of March 3, 1875; restored to rank of colonel by act (special) of March 13, 1878.

|| Retired with rank of colonel December 15, 1870; reduced to rank of captain by operation of act of March 3, 1875; restored to rank of colonel by act (special) of July 25, 1876.

** Retired with rank of lieutenant-colonel December 15, 1870; reduced to rank of captain by operation of the act of March 3, 1875; restored to rank of lieutenant-colonel by act (special) of March 3, 1877.

†† Retired with rank of colonel December 15, 1870; reduced to rank of lieutenant-colonel by operation of act of March 3, 1875.

‡‡ Retired with rank of captain July 1, 1871; reduced to rank of 1st lieutenant by operation of act of March 3, 1875; restored to rank of captain by act (special) of June 21, 1876.

§§ Retired with rank of captain December 31, 1870; reduced to rank of 1st lieutenant by operation of act of March 3, 1875.

The following named captains on the retired list are retired with mounted pay of their grade: William R. Smedberg, Malbone F. Watson, Charles T. Green, John H. Butler.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, WASHINGTON, D. C., December 30, 1882.

List of officers retired because of wounds in service on rank actually held when wounded.

Name.	Retired rank.	Date when wounded.	Rank when wounded.
Wager Swayne.....	Colonel.....	February 2, 1865	Colonel 43d Ohio Infantry.
Benjamin P. Runkle.....	Major.....	April 7, 1862	Major 13th Ohio Infantry.
Al B. Thompson.....	Captain.....	December 31, 1862	Captain 18th U. S. Infantry.
Wm. R. Smedberg.....	do.....	May 5, 1864	do 14th U. S. Infantry.
Henry C. Morgan.....	do.....	May 5, 1864	do 12th U. S. Infantry.
Thomas T. Brand.....	do.....	Sept. 19, 1863	do 18th U. S. Infantry.
Thomas B. Burrows.....	do.....	Sept. 1, 1864	do 18th U. S. Infantry.
Garrick Mallory.....	do.....	June 30, 1862	do 71st Pa. Infantry.
Edward S. Meyer.....	do.....	May 3, 1863	do 107th Ohio Infantry.
Charles T. Greene.....	do.....	Nov. 27, 1863	do A. A. G.
Hezekiah Gardner.....	do.....	Nov. 24, 1863	do 100th Illinois Infantry.
Albert Barnitz.....	do.....	Nov. 27, 1863	do 7th U. S. Cavalry.
George B. Carso.....	do.....	May 2, 1863	do 40th N. Y. Infantry.
Jacob C. DeGress.....	do.....	July, 1863	do 16th Missouri Cavalry.
Samuel K. Schwenk.....	do.....	June 3, 1864	do 50th Pa. Infantry.
Michael J. Fitz Gerald.....	do.....	August 14, 1876	do 9th U. S. Infantry.
Wm. T. Pennock.....	1st Lieutenant.....	May 5, 1864	1st Lieutenant 1st U. S. Cavalry.
Robert Davis.....	do.....	May 12, 1864	do 2d U. S. Infantry.
Edward B. Knox.....	do.....	May 27, 1862	do 44th N. Y. Infantry.
Ransom Kennicott.....	do.....	Nov. 3, 1866	do 19th U. S. Infantry.
Oscar I. Converse.....	do.....	Nov. 12, 1867	do 14th U. S. Infantry.
Ephraim Williams.....	do.....	Sept. 23, 1867	do 5th U. S. Infantry.
Joseph H. Hays.....	do.....	May 16, 1864	do 142d N. Y. Infantry.
Granville Lewis.....	do.....	Sept. 9, 1874	do 5th U. S. Infantry.
Frank B. Rice.....	do.....	December 13, 1862	do 1st Mich. Infantry.
David H. Cortelyou.....	do.....	June 3, 1864	do 6th N. Y. Cavalry.
A. H. Von Luettwitz.....	do.....	Sept. 9, 1876	do 3d U. S. Cavalry.
Nelson Bronson.....	do.....	Sept. 17, 1862	do 8th Conn. Infantry.
Henry McQuiston.....	2d Lieutenant.....	June 21, 1863	2d Lieutenant 6th U. S. Cavalry.
James Davison.....	do.....	July, 1863	do 3d U. S. Artillery.
Michael Mangano.....	do.....	July 1, 1863	do 6th Wisconsin Infantry.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, Washington, D. C., Dec. 30, 1882.

List of officers retired with increased rank by special acts of Congress.

Name.	Present rank on retired list.	Actual rank when retired.	Act of Congress.
Edward O. C. Ord.....	Major general.....	Brigadier general.....	January 23, 1881.
Wm. H. Emory.....	Brigadier general.....	Colonel of Cavalry.....	June 26, 1876.
Gabriel R. Paul.....	Brigadier general.....	Colonel of Infantry.....	April 12, 1870.
Samuel W. Crawford.....	Brigadier general.....	Colonel of Infantry.....	March 3, 1875.
Joseph Conrad.....	Colonel.....	Captain of Infantry.....	August 7, 1882.
Charles G. Frandenber.....	Lieutenant colonel.....	Captain of Infantry.....	March 3, 1877.

* With full pay and allowances of brigadier general.

THE ARMY APPROPRIATION BILL.

THE Army Appropriation bill as it passed the House was introduced in the Senate Jan. 5 and referred to the Committee on Appropriations. We published in full in the JOURNAL of Dec. 23 the bill as originally introduced in the House, and now summarize the various changes before it was finally passed.

Under the head of "Pay of the Army" twenty aides-camp are provided for instead of twenty-six. The General's aides remain as they are, but the Lieutenant General is only allowed two, below the rank of lieutenant colonel; Major Generals two, captains or 1st lieutenants, and Brigadier Generals one each, to be selected from the 1st lieutenants. All these aides are to come from the line; none of them are to remain in that capacity longer than three years, and they are to have no additional rank or pay while serving as aides.

The clause in the original bill relating to retirements on rank actually held at date of retirement is entirely stricken out. The bill as it has gone to the Senate contains the added clause relating to the gradual abolition of the Pay Department, as follows:

And provided further, That whenever a vacancy occurs in the office of paymaster general, assistant paymaster general, deputy paymaster general, or paymaster in the Army, by death, dismissal, resignation, retirement, or other cause, the same shall not be filled by appointment or otherwise; and whenever the force in the Pay Department shall not be sufficient for the due payment of the troops, the Secretary of War is authorized and required to detail, under such regulations as he may prescribe, an officer or officers in the Quartermaster's Department to supply the deficiency; and when the paymasters have all died, been dismissed, resigned, or been retired as hereinbefore stated, the payment of the Army shall be wholly transferred to the Quartermaster's Department, under such regulations as the Secretary of War may prescribe. Whenever, however, a vacancy occurs in the office of the paymaster general, the duties of that office shall devolve on the next officer in rank in the Pay Department.

The appropriation for contingent expenses of the Quartermaster's Department is increased from \$20,000 to \$30,000. The other appropriations remain as in the original bill.

It will thus be seen that the bill as it entered and left the House was not changed in many particulars, but that the changes made are all important in their nature.

Mr. Sewell, in the Senate on Wednesday, gave notice of the following amendment to be proposed to the Army Appropriation bill:

That section 1661 of the R. S. be, and the same is hereby, amended and re-enacted so as to read as follows: That the sum of \$16,000 is hereby annually appropriated, to be paid out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of providing arms, equipments, ammunition, ordnance, stores and tents for militia.

That said appropriation shall be apportioned among the several States and Territories on the books of the Ordnance Department by the Chief of Ordnance of the Army, under the direction of the Secretary of War, according to the number of Representatives or Delegates to which each State and Territory respectively is entitled in the Congress of the United States: *Provided, however, That each State and Territory shall only be entitled to the benefits of so much of the appropriation apportioned to it as the proportion of the number of its regularly enlisted, organized, and uniformed active militia, as determined by the report of the Secretary of War made on the preceding first Monday in February, bears to the maximum number of active militia for which such State or Territory is entitled to the benefits of this act. And the amount of said appropriation which is thus determined not to be available shall be covered back into the Treasury.*

That in time of peace the number of active militia for which each State and Territory shall be entitled to receive its apportionment of the appropriations made by this act shall not exceed six hundred regularly uniformed commissioned officers and en-

listed men for each Representative or Delegate to which such State or Territory is entitled in the Congress of the United States.

That the purchase or manufacture of ordnance, ordnance stores, and tents for the militia under the provisions of this act shall be made by the Chief of Ordnance of the Army, under the direction of the Secretary of War, and they shall be received for and shall remain the property of the United States, and be annually accounted for to the Chief of Ordnance of the Army, by the governor of the State or Territory, for which purpose the Chief of Ordnance of the Army, under the direction of the Secretary of War, shall prescribe and supply the necessary blanks, and make such regulations as he may deem necessary to protect the interest of the United States.

That all arms, equipments, ordnance stores or tents which may become unserviceable or unsuitable shall be examined by a board of officers of the militia, and its report shall be forwarded by the governor of the State or Territory direct to the Chief of Ordnance of the Army for the action of the Secretary of War, who shall direct what disposition, by sale or otherwise, shall be made of them; and the proceeds of such sale shall be covered into the Treasury of the United States.

That for all the purposes of this act the District of Columbia shall be accounted and treated as a Territory entitled to one Delegate in Congress.

This is what is known as the Militia bill, which received favorable action by the Senate Military Committee last session, and is now on the Senate calendar.

THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S REPORT, N. Y. STATE.

This document, a pamphlet of 123 pages, has just been issued. Of the more important portions we give the following synopsis:

Jan. 1, 1882, the National Guard comprised 12,493 officers and enlisted men. No organizations were added to the Guard during the year, but the following were disbanded: 13th Separate Co., Infantry, Wyoming Co.; 26th Separate Co., Infantry, Orleans Co.; 35th Separate Co., Infantry, Madison Co.

No other change has occurred, except the retention in the service (as the 13th Separate Co.) of the 4th Separate Co. of Chautauque Co., the muster-out of which had been included in the disbandments ordered in December last, leaving the aggregate—exclusive of general headquarters—11,608. The Guard—divided into four divisions and eight brigades—now consists of 7 batteries of artillery, 15 regiments, 1 battalion, and 40 separate companies of infantry. These are located as follows: Of infantry, 13 regiments in New York and Brooklyn, and 2 in Buffalo and in the rest of the State, excepting in the city of Albany, where there is a battalion of 4 companies, there are 42 separate companies.

The report repeats the remarks contained in last year's report, referring to the consolidation of the separate companies into battalions of at least two companies, and these into regiments of three battalions, with headquarters in suitable cities on the Hudson River.

The Guard is congratulated on the adoption of the service uniform, and the hope is expressed that among the earlier acts of the incoming Legislature one will be passed providing the means and the method for the immediate supply of this uniform to every enlisted man.

No steps have been taken toward improving the accommodations for the infantry other than procuring certain sample devices which, though possessing many points of utility, are, unless considerably modified, not deemed desirable for a force like the National Guard.

The difference in the calibre of the rifle with which the Guard is armed, and that of the Regular Army, necessitates the storage by the Chief of Ordnance of 550,000 cartridges as a sacred reserve to be used only in the event of insurrection. As the State has no magazines, the storage of this reserve is not only hazardous but inconvenient, and would be unnecessary, excepting to the extent of a few thousand cartridges, were the calibre of the State rifle the same as that of the United States, inasmuch as in a few hours time all the ammunition needed for the emergency could doubtless be procured from the magazines of the General Government in New York Harbor. The recourse comes to be the more desirable in the experience of the failure of the last Legislature to provide for the purchase of this reserve.

The inspection and muster during the summer and fall showed 8,675 present and 3,025 absent, making a total, present and absent, of 11,700, as follows:

Division and Brigade Commanders and Staff.	Present.	Absent.	Total.
Artillery.....	114	27	141
Infantry.....	378	101	479
Infantry.....	8,183	2,897	11,080
Total.....	8,675	3,025	11,700

After disposing of the subjects of the erection of a military storehouse, for which \$15,000 was appropriated, war claims, volunteer records, and Bureau of Statistics, the report says: "The inauguration of the State Camp of Instruction, and the establishment of a service uniform common to the whole Guard, have been the chief inspirations of this department for the past three years, but such has been the opposition from one source or another that a successful culmination has been relegated to the terminal year of the present administration."

It was thought that the territory leased for the camp was sufficient to amply include a rifle range, but when it came to be occupied it was apparent that additional area was needed, and the General Inspector of Rifle Practice was therefore instructed to lease a sufficient amount of the adjoining land to accomplish all that was required for a complete and satisfactory range, which he did at an annual rent of \$500. Ably seconded by his assistant, Col. J. G. Story, he was thus enabled to construct and equip an admirable range with a skillful adaptation of means to the end, personally creditable to him and his department.

The balance in the hands of county treasurers, to the credit of disbanded organizations of the Guard, which the Adjutant-General, by chapter 92, of the Laws of 1879, is authorized to draw in and expend for the benefit of the National Guard, was used to equip the 8th regiment and the 2d and 11th Separate Companies with the new uniform at \$20 per head, and these organizations were enabled to march into the State Camp of Instruction, fully equipped in the State service dress, and thus add greatly to the *edat* of the camp and of these State troops, who were the first to have the honor of wearing the regulation uniform.

Officers and men are favorably commended on their conduct in camp and throughout its duration. "The air of earnest military decorum for which it was distinguished was unquestionably due to the high character of the material of the regiments more than to another commendable fact, namely: the implicit obedience to the orders from the General Headquarters forbidding the use of intoxicating beverages of any nature at the camp."

Over 2,600 men were on duty in camp, and no death and no case of serious illness occurred. This favorable condition as to health is credited to the salubrious situation of the camp and the able management of the Medical Department by Major (now General) Joseph D. Bryant, the post surgeon and his assistant, Hospital Steward Julius Ingard.

The annual inspections at the camp, and the daily morning reports, "utterly refute the hackneyed idea entertained by a few individuals, officers of the Guard, that the camp would be a failure, because the men could not afford to spare the time, or their employers the men for even a few days' camp."

In the arrangements it was not contemplated to furnish rations in kind to the troops. The few days during which the men were to be in camp were too precious to be employed in cooking. Knowledge of this character is very soon acquired in campaign, besides, the success of the camp would have been greatly jeopardized had the men been fed on imperfectly prepared food, likely to induce fevers and camp dysentery. The troops were provided with cooked rations divided into three meals per day.

The total expense of the camp was \$31,253.73; of this sum \$19,900.49 came from funds in the hands of the Chief of Ordnance arising from the public sale of condemned material, and \$1,000 from the surplus funds remaining to the credit of disbanded organizations; the remainder was paid out of the appropriation for the National Guard for the fiscal year commencing on Oct. 1, 1881.

The report closes as follows: "It affords me extreme gratification to report the Camp of Instruction a complete success, at which there can be no doubt was afforded to the troops on duty there a benefit surpassing what was held to be of reasonable anticipation. Even the more *elite* regiments, in some of the shades of campaign duties which go to the make up of the alert and sturdy soldier, were found to have made marked improvement within twenty-four hours of their advent at the camp. Now that this camp has been successfully inaugurated, I trust it may not seem inopportune to renew the suggestion of the purchase by the State of the present site, and to develop the effort in the direction of a school for the National Guard, to be kept current during the usual vacation months of June, July, and August of each year, having a commandant of the post, with the rank and pay of brigadier-general, with two instructors, having the rank and pay of colonel, a post surgeon, with rank and pay of colonel, and a post adjutant and quartermaster, with rank and pay of captain. At this school lectures should be delivered, and the officers required to study and recite the tactics to be developed in the field each day as laid down in the orders of instruction, and no organization should remain at the school for a less period than eight days in any one year. It is confidently believed that if the camp be fostered in the direction of a school, our National Guard will soon inspire the confidence of citizens as worthy occupying the plane of an armed magistracy for the preservation of the law and order of the State, imperilled from whatever cause."

THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

THE annual meeting took place in the Board of Officers room of the 7th regiment armory on Tuesday evening, Jan. 9. Gen. E. L. Molinex, the President, had the chair for the last time and delivered an address.

This was the main event of the evening, the session being an unusually quiet one, and the remainder of it was devoted to the reading of the Treasurer's and Secretary's reports, etc., and the election of directors.

Treasurer John H. Cowperthwait reported that at the beginning of the year 1882 there was a balance in the treasury of \$1,304.40. The receipts during the year were \$18,490; expenses, \$17,893, showing a balance of \$696, increasing the whole balance on hand to \$1,941. There were no important claims against the association to reduce this sum. The international military rifle match resulted in a loss to the association of \$145. The only way, in the opinion of the treasurer, in which a military rifle team could be sent to Europe next year would be to ask for subscriptions from the public to pay the expenses, and the ordinary expenditures of the association must be defrayed by the State.

Secretary George J. Seabury recommended the adoption of a resolution, "that a committee of three be appointed by the president of the association, who shall correspond with the Inspectors General of Rifle Practice and Military Organizations of the several States to urge upon their Congressional Representatives such action, and the introduction of such a clause in the sundry civil appropriation bill as shall cause such appropriation to be confined almost wholly to acquiring skill with small arms by our regular and State troops."

The result of the election was: Directors for three years, Col. Rodney C. Ward, Col. Joseph G. Story, Frank J. Donaldson, Col. John Ward, General George W. Wingate. For one year, Colonel G. E. P. Howard and J. H. Brown. The Board of Directors held a meeting shortly afterward and appointed a committee to select a candidate for President. Other officers were elected as follows: Vice President, General George W. Wingate; Secretary, George J. Seabury; Treasurer, Col. Rodney C. Ward. Executive committee, Gen. Stephen R. Smith; Col. H. G. Litchfield, and Col. Joseph G. Story.

An Associated Press despatch from San Francisco Jan 8, says: "The Chronicle publishes an interview with J. N. Flocher, a resident of Alaska Territory, who was present at the shelling of an Indian village by U. S. Naval forces. He says the outrage was committed at the instigation of the Northwest Trading Company, which drove the Indians away from that part of the country, in order that it should be left open to the company's own operations. The attack was not justified by the action of the Indians, and the naval officers were misled by the company's agent, Vanderbilt, and Collector of Customs W. G. Morris." We simply give this despatch for what it is worth, and to show the view put before the public.

THE NAVY.

NAVAL VESSELS IN COMMISSION.

WHEN AND WHERE LAST HEARD FROM.

Iron-clads are indicated by a star (*).

North Atlantic Station—Rear-Admiral Geo. H. Cooper.

ALLIANCE, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Allen V. Reed. Passed Cape Henry Dec. 16, bound on a cruise through the West Indies. Will reach Aspinwall about Jan. 23, and New Orleans about March 15.

KANSAS, 3d rate, 7 guns, Comdr. Wm. R. Bridgman. Passed Cape Henry Dec. 16, bound on a cruise through the West Indies. Expects to reach Aspinwall about March 1, and New Orleans about the 15th.

SWATARA, 3d rate, 8 guns, Commander Philip H. Cooper. At Norfolk, Va. As soon as refitted and re-officered, will proceed on a cruise through the West Indies. Expects to reach Aspinwall March 1, and New Orleans March 15.

TENNESSEE, 1st rate, 23 guns (f. s. a. s.), Capt. Robert F. Bradford. Passed Cape Henry Dec. 16, bound on a cruise through the West Indies. Expects to reach Aspinwall Feb. 15, and New Orleans March 12.

VANDALIA, 3d rate, 8 guns, Capt. Rush R. Wallace. Passed Cape Henry Dec. 16, bound on a cruise through the West Indies. Expects to reach Aspinwall March 1, and New Orleans March 15.

YANTIC, 3d rate, 4 guns, Commander Frank Wildes. Passed Cape Henry Dec. 16, bound on a cruise through the West Indies. Expects to reach Aspinwall Jan. 12, and New Orleans March 15.

South Atlantic Station—Rear-Admiral Peirce Crosby.

BROOKLYN, 2d rate, 14 guns, Capt. A. W. Weaver. Left Montevideo, Oct. 26, for Santa Cruz, with Lieut. Very and party on board.

GALENA, 3d rate, 8 guns, (f. s. a. s.), Comdr. Oliver A. Batcheller. Temporarily used as flagship. At Montevideo, Nov. 1.

European Station—Rear-Admiral J. W. A. Nicholson.

LANCASTER, 3d rate, 10 guns (f. s. e. s.), Capt. Bancroft Gherardi. Arrived at Genoa Dec. 13. Expected to remain about three weeks.

NIRSI, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Henry B. Seely. En route to New York. Supposed to have left Lisbon about Dec. 30, but there has been no advice to that effect.

QUINNEBAUG, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. Wm. Whitehead. Left Malta, Nov. 17, for Villefranche.

Pacific Station—Rear-Admiral A. K. Hughes.

ADAMS, 3d rate, 6 guns, Commander Edgar C. Merriman. At Sitka, Nov. 24.

ALASKA, 2d rate, 13 guns, Capt. George E. Belknap. At San Francisco. Ordered to Honolulu to take part in the ceremonies of His Majesty, King Kalakaua.

ESSEX, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Alex. H. McCormick. Under orders to Asiatic Station, but delayed by injury to machinery. Probably on the way to Panama from Callao.

HARTFORD, 2d rate, 16 guns, Capt. C. C. Carpenter. Arrived at Valparaiso, Dec. 26.

INOQUOIS, 3d rate, 7 guns, Comdr. James H. Sands. At Callao.

LACKAWANNA, 2d rate, 9 guns, Capt. Henry Wilson. Left Callao, Dec. 16, for Honolulu, and expected to arrive there about Jan. 20.

ONWARD, 4th rate, 3 guns, Lieut. Commander Thomas M. Gardner. Store ship. At Callao, Peru.

PENSACOLA, 2d rate, 23 guns (f. s. p. s.), Capt. Joseph Fyffe. Arrived at Panama from Valparaiso Dec. 27.

WAHUSSETT, 3d rate, 7 guns, Comdr. Frederick Pearson. At the Navy-yard, Mare Island. Uncertain when she will be ready for sea, but probably in two or three weeks. Will probably go to the Sandwich Islands.

Asiatic Station—Rear-Admiral J. M. B. Clitz.

ASHUELOT, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Horace E. Mullan. Arrived at Kobe Nov. 6, left on the 22d and arrived at Nagasaki on the 26th. She would be detained at Nagasaki until about the middle of December, owing to repairs in the engineer's department. She is to be at Hong Kong ready for service by Jan. 15, 1883.

ENTERPRISE, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. A. S. Barker. Left Cape Henry, Jan. 2, for the Asiatic Station. Will touch first at the Cape de Verd Islands, and then at Cape of Good Hope.

JUNIATA, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. George Dewey. Advice from this vessel are that Capt. Dewey was stricken down with fever shortly after leaving New York and was seriously ill, but was recovering. A telegram from Gibraltar, received on Dec. 10, announces the vessel's arrival, and that Commander Dewey is convalescing. All on board are well. Lieut. Samuel Belden, commanding pro tempore, reports as follows from Horta Fyral, Azores Island, Dec. 15, 1882: "I have the honor to report the arrival of this vessel at this place, having come here upon the recommendation of the surgeon of the ship on account of the health of Commander Dewey. I purpose remaining here until such time as he is convalescent and able to resume command. Commander Dewey has been incapacitated for duty since Dec. 1, and his convalescence will probably not be established before Jan. 1." She will go through the Suez Canal and will not reach the station for two or three months.

MONOCACY, 3d rate, 6 guns, Commander Chas. S. Cotton. Left Yokohama Nov. 29 and arrived at Kobe Dec. 2, having anchored at Kaneda and Omai Saka. After completing her cruise she will proceed to Hong Kong and await orders.

PALOS, 4th rate, 6 howitzers, Lieut. Commander Geo. D. B. Gilden. Left Kobe Oct. 31, arrived at Nagasaki Nov. 3; left Nagasaki on the 8th and arrived at Chefoo Nov. 13, having anchored at Port Hamilton from the 9th to the 11th on account of rough weather. Would leave for Tientsin Dec. 15.

RICHMOND, 3d rate, 14 guns (f. s. a. s.) Capt. Jos. S. Ekerrett. Rear-Admiral Clitz reports as follows from Yokohama, Japan, Dec. 5, 1882: "I have the honor to inform the Department that upon the arrival of the U. S. S. *Ashuelot* at Nagasaki it was discovered that a hole was developed in one of the branches leading from the main Kingston valve of such a nature as to necessitate docking the ship. Necessary repairs are in progress. On the 4th inst. the Japanese non-clad *Tsuo Kan* and the *Kango Kan*, under command of a rear-admiral, arrived. The usual civilities and salutes were exchanged. To-day, H. B. M. S.

Curacoa arrived. The usual civilities were exchanged. At present no other men-of-war are in harbor." Left Yokohama, Dec. 6, for all the open Chinese ports.

Apprentice Training Squadron—Commodore S. B. Luce.

JAMESTOWN, 3d rate, sails, 13 guns, Commander Allan D. Brown. At the Boston Navy-yard. Will be ready for sea Jan. 17. To cruise through Leeward and Windward Islands, touching at such ports as the commanding officer may think best, and return via west end of Cuba and Straits of Florida to Newport—so timing movements as to reach Newport not later than May 20.

MINNESOTA, 1st rate, 24 guns, Capt. Jas. H. Gillis. Gunner ship. Wintering at the Brooklyn Navy-yard.

NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1st rate, 16 guns, sails, flagship of training squadron, Commander Charles E. Clark. Coaster's Island Harbor, Newport, R. I.

PORTSMOUTH, 3d rate, sails, 13 guns, Comdr. Wm. C. Wise. Training ship. At Boston. Will be ready for sea Jan. 13. To cruise through Leeward and Windward Islands, touching at such ports as the commanding officer may think best, and return via west end of Cuba and Straits of Florida to Newport—so timing movements as to reach Newport not later than May 20.

SARATOGA, 3d rate, 13 guns, Comdr. Henry C. Taylor. Training ship. At the Brooklyn Navy-yard, having some slight repairs.

On Special Service.

DESPATCH, 4th rate, Commander S. Dana Greene. At Washington. Ready for service.

MICHIGAN, 4th rate, 8 guns, Comdr. Albert Kautz. At Erie, Penn. Laid up for the winter.

POWHATAN, 2d rate, 14 guns, Capt. Edmund O. Matthews. At the Boston yard. Extensive overhauling.

RANGER, 3d rate, 4 guns, Comdr. John W. Philip. Expected at San Francisco. Sustained injury to machinery on the Mexican coast.

ST. MARY'S, sails, 8 guns, Commander Edwin M. Shepard. N. Y. School ship. Anchored in winter quarters at foot of 23d street, East River, N. Y.

TALLAPOOSA, 4th rate, 2 howitzers, Commander Augustus G. Kellogg. At the Washington Navy-yard. Overhauling machinery.

WYOMING, 3d rate, 7 guns. At Annapolis, Md. Not in commission.

Receiving Ships, Iron-Clads, Etc.

COLORADO, 1st rate, 50 guns, Capt. David B. Harmony. Receiving ship, New York.

FORTUNE, 4th rate, Pilot George Glass. A. Norfolk.

FRANKLIN, 1st rate, 26 guns, Capt. Bushrod B. Taylor. Receiving ship. At Norfolk.

INDEPENDENCE, 3d rate, sails, 6 guns, Capt. Chas. S. Norton. Receiving ship. At Mare Island, Cal.

MIANTOMOH, 3d rate, 4 guns, Comdr. Francis J. Higginson. At the Washington Navy-yard.

PAWNEE, 3d rate, sails, Ensign Wm. Braunsreuther. Hospital ship, Port Royal, S. C.

PHLOX, 4th rate, Mate B. G. Perry. At Annapolis.

PILGRIM, 4th rate, Pilot B. F. Chadwick. Service tug at League Island.

SNOWDROP, 4th rate, Pilot F. Reynolds. Service tug at Norfolk yard.

ST. LOUIS, 3d rate, sails, Capt. Wm. E. Fitzhugh. Receiving ship, League Island.

WABASH, 1st rate, 26 guns, Comdr. F. M. Bunce. Receiving ship, Boston.

WYANDOTTÉ, 4th rate, 3 guns, Lieut. Wm. H. Webb. Has taken the place of the *Pascaia* as the receiving ship at the Navy-yard, Washington.

The iron-clads *Ajar*, Lieut. J. A. Chesley, (temp.); *Catskill*, Lieut. Jos. Marthon; *Lehigh*; *Manopac*, Lieut. James A. Chesley; *Manhattan*; are laid up at City Point, Va.

VARIOUS NAVAL ITEMS.

The board of which Commodore Luce is President, making an examination of the Navy-yards, left Washington on Jan. 10 for Key West and Pensacola.

Commodore A. A. Semmes and Capt. R. W. Meade, and Commander H. L. Howison, have been appointed a special board under the act of Congress, approved Aug. 7, 1882, for establishing and completing a coaling dock and naval store house at Port Royal Harbor, S. C.

Lieut. Comdr. J. K. Winn reports, under date of Jan. 5, from Key West, that there are three vessels (two lumber laden) bottom up in the Gulf stream, and directly in the track of vessels navigating those waters. One was reported about Cape Carnival; one is just to the east of Sand Key, and the third off Marquesas Key. He suggests that they be destroyed if possible by some of our men-of-war on this station.

Commodore Badger, in pursuance of instructions from the Secretary of the Navy, recently ordered a board to investigate published statements of all apprentice (deserters) from the *Portsmouth*, relative to alleged cruel treatment of the apprentices on that vessel during her late European cruise. The board consisted of Commanders Bunce and Gridley, and Surg. Winslow, and their report is a complete refutation of any charges of the kind above indicated. They found, from the examination made, that the boys were kindly treated, and have no good reason to complain.

Lieut. R. Mason Lisle, U. S. N., has been ordered before the retiring board.

The contractors of the *Amphitrite* and *Terror* have accepted the propositions of the Navy Department to launch those vessels, and they will soon be ready. The former is at Wilmington, Harlin Hollingsworth's establishment; and the latter at Philadelphia, Cramp's establishment.

The Inspection Board of which Commodore Semmes is president, visited the naval station, Port Royal, on Jan. 6, and received the usual salute.

An Associated Press despatch, dated Panama, Dec. 30, 1882, says: "Admiral Balch leaves the U. S. S. *Pensacola* at this port, and to-morrow proceeds to San Francisco by the Pacific mail steamer *Colima*. His successor, Rear-Admiral A. K. Hughes, hoisted his flag on the *Pensacola* to-day."

On Jan. 9, writing from the Office of Commission of Navy-yards, Navy Department, Washington, Commodore S. B. Luce addressed the following to Mayor Low of Brooklyn: "Sir: The Commission on Navy-yards, appointed under the act of Congress approved Aug. 5, 1882, beg to inform you that they will probably visit Brooklyn within the next two

weeks, and would be glad of an opportunity of meeting any of the citizens of Brooklyn who may be interested in the sale or retention of the United States Navy-yard at that place." Mayor Low replied "that he had given the announcement to the citizens through the newspaper press, and if informed of the precise date when the Commission would be in Brooklyn, he would be glad to place his office at its disposal; or should Commodore Luce prefer the meeting at the Navy-yard, he will request the citizens to attend there." On the 8th of May last the Aldermen passed a resolution declaring that in the judgment of the Board the interests of Brooklyn would be greatly promoted by the removal of the yard (as it would open to private enterprises the valuable water front and other land now held by the General Government) and requesting our representatives in Congress to favor the removal. Mayor Low is in favor of the retention of the Navy-yard in the immediate vicinity of New York.

Chief Engineer George W. Melville, U. S. N., began habeas corpus proceedings Jan. 8, at Media, Pa., to recover the custody of his three children. In his testimony he said he had allowed his wife during his absence on the *Jeanette* expedition \$90 a month, but during the last thirteen months she had succeeded in drawing an additional \$50 a month; that on his return home he found himself in debt for \$1,500 for bills contracted and borrowed money; that his troubles with his wife began in 1869; that in 1877 he discovered that she had drinking habits; that when he returned from the *Jeanette* expedition her whole appearance indicated disorder of mind and body; that subsequently on a certificate of insanity, because of alcoholism, given by physicians, she was committed to an insane asylum. Servants and others testified to having seen Mrs. Melville, or suspected her, to be under the influence of liquor. Witnesses for the defence contradicted the stories about drinking, and Mrs. Melville herself, on direct and cross examination, stigmatized as false nearly every assertion made by her husband. The court then adjourned until next Wednesday. The Judge said that he would privately examine the three children, after which he would be ready to hear the argument of counsel. Among witnesses examined was Mrs. Melville's brother, Phineas Waldron, who testified that she was the daughter of Judge Waldron, of Buffalo, N. Y. When Chief Engineer Melville was put on the stand the counsel for Mrs. Melville, objecting to the oath being administered to the intended witness on the ground that he did not believe in God and a future state of rewards and punishments, he was placed on his *voir dire*, and said that though possibly, for the sake of argument, he had denied the existence of God, he had the usual religious convictions and observed the sanctity of an oath. The court directed the witness to be sworn.

It is reported that the court ordered to inquire into the facts, found that the tug *Fortune*, belonging to the Navy, was responsible for the collision in Hampton Roads between that vessel and the steamer *Excelsior*, and that the mate in charge of the tug at the time would probably lose his position. Such collisions are more serious than the thoughtless would suppose. They involved the replacing of the injured vessel in her original condition and all expenses following directly from the collision, such as the use of wreckers, additional expense of charter of other means to take the place of the steamer whose services are for the time lost to the company, and sundry other items. There is never a great deal of modesty in reciting the items of damage, as the Government is always able to pay, even if not willing.

A GENERAL NAVAL court martial has been appointed to meet at Norfolk, Va., in a few days, for the trial of such prisoners as may be brought before it. The detail for the court is as follows: Captain W. A. Kirkland, Commander C. M. Schoonmaker, Lieutenant Commander C. H. Rockwell, Lieutenants P. Garst, C. K. Curtis, A. C. Dillingham and B. Leach, with Lieutenant T. T. Wood as Judge Advocate.

Information received from the Navy Department, Jan. 8, 1883, says there is no foundation for the report that Lieutenant Commander Goringe will be ordered to command the *Pinta*, now being prepared for sea at the Norfolk Navy-yard. Her commander has not yet been selected. The *Pinta* will be ready for duty in about three weeks, and will be sent to Alaska.

Among the amusements on the occasion of the celebration of King Kalakaua's birthday at Honolulu Nov. 16, was a regatta. A race for six oared gigs, prizes \$100 and \$50, was won by the Kapuuala Marine railway crew; the other contestants, coming in the order named, were the *Malia*, *Kanoolani*, and *Kapiolani*, the last named manned by a crew from the U. S. S. *Alaska*. For a sailing canoe race, \$30, there were ten entries, and after several mishaps, which spoiled the fun of half the number, the *Iwalandi* came in winner. Six oared gigs, \$100 and \$50, won by the *Kapuuala*, followed by the *Malia*. Diving contest, \$10, won by *Pelehu*, who was under 2m. 30s.; *Kanohu* was down 2m. Tug of war, canoes, \$50, course from midway between steamer wharf and shore to either place, won by the *Kipukohala*. Tub race, \$20, won by the *Leahi*. Tug of war, swimming, \$15, won by *Kapahu*. Barge race, \$100 and \$50, the *True Bine*, manned from the U. S. S. *Alaska*, won very easily, followed by the *Hanalei*, the *Kapiolalehu* a bad third. There was also two yacht races, a race for two oared boats, a barge race, a six paddle canal race, whale boat race, four oared gig race, and a swimming race one-eighth of a mile, won by *Opu* in 3m. 11s.

The following despatch from Petersburg was received by Secretary Chandler, Washington, D. C., Jan. 7:

I have just received from Ensign Hunt the following telegram: "Please inform the Secretary as follows: Kirinsk, Dec. 31.—Inguin is seriously ill in hospital. Inflammation of lungs. Myself, Manson, and Bartlett remain here. Probably delay two weeks. Leach, Lauterbach, and Tuoma proceed and await me at Irkutsk. The Russian government has not yet ordered its authorities to permit and assist in removing the bodies." Hunt, Minister.

A BOARD will soon be ordered to assemble in New York, at the Navy-yard, to examine and report on the specimens of cotton cordage which may be sent in under the invitation of the Secretary of the Navy, published on the 8th of December last. Many efforts have been made to introduce cotton cordage, even so far as to get legislation favoring it to some degree, but the process has been slow. It is thought that there are some serious objections to it, as compared with hemp and wire. The following was the invitation for samples of cotton rope for tests:

NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, Dec. 8, 1882.

An act of Congress, approved June 10, 1880, authorizes and directs the introduction into the naval service of rope and cordage manufactured of cotton, according to the recent methods, to such an extent as will furnish a fair test of the value and efficiency thereof, as compared with the kinds now in use.

In order to furnish a fair test of the value and efficiency of cotton cordage, compared with the kinds now in use, manufactured by the Government, manufacturers of cotton rope are hereby invited to deliver in the New York Navy-yard, by the 15th January next, free of any expense to the Government, specimens of their manufacture, in sizes from 1½ to 7½ inches, and in lengths of 25 feet each.

Each specimen must bear the name of the manufacturer, with cost of same per pound.

WILLIAM E. CHANDLER, Secretary of the Navy.

On Thursday morning flames were discovered on the U. S. steamer *Saratoga*, issuing from the forward hatch of the boat deck. Lieut. John D. Keeler sounded the fire alarm, but, assisted by the quartermaster and marines on duty, succeeded in extinguishing the flames. The fire originated from a piece of sacking taking fire from the stovepipe of the forward stove. No damage was done beyond charring one of the gratings.

A SPECIAL meeting of the New York Chamber of Commerce was held, Jan. 11, to consider the bills "to establish a Bureau of Mercantile Marine in the Navy Department, and to transfer the Revenue Marine Service to the Navy." The opposition to the bills was general. Col. Frederick A. Conkling was bitterly opposed to the Bureau of Mercantile Marine bill. Naval officers, he said, "have not the necessary qualifications to exercise proper control of the mercantile marine. You might as well place a first class man-of-war about to engage in battle under the command of the captain of a canal boat as to associate naval officers with commerce." Col. Conkling pronounced the bill preposterous, absurd and outrageous, and hoped that every member of the Chamber of Commerce would place his seal of condemnation upon it. Mr. William D. Marvel said that the bill, if passed, would lead to the transfer of an immense amount of patronage to the Navy Department. That, probably, was what was wanted. The Navy Department had no navy to look after. Like Othello, his occupation was gone, and the legislators thought they would give the Secretary of the Navy something to do. It was decided to send resolutions to Congress in the matter, expressive of the sense of the Chamber on the bills. A newspaper despatch from Washington says: "The Surgeon General of the Marine Hospital Service has written a letter to the Secretary of the Treasury strenuously opposing the transfer of that service to the Navy Department. It is expected that similar letters will be written by the Chief of the Revenue Marine Service, the General Superintendent of the Life Saving Service, and the Superintendent of the Coast Survey." Officers of the Revenue Marine are distributing blanks for petitions to Congress opposing the transfer.

The Cotton Exchange of St. Louis adopted resolutions Jan. 11, requesting the Senators and Representatives from Missouri to oppose the transfer of the meteorological work of the Signal Service to the Interior Department, and asking them not only to secure, if possible, a more permanent and dependent organization of the Signal Service as a branch of the War Department, but to urge appropriations of sufficient money to enable the Signal Service to furnish the cotton belt weather reports throughout the entire year instead of eight months only as now.

The Prime Minister of British Columbia having requested Capt. Stodder, of the U. S. revenue steamer *Olivea Wolcott*, to lend his assistance in suppressing Indian troubles at Fort Simpson, because no British war vessel is now in these waters, Secretary Folger has directed Capt. Stodder to be present with his ship and prevent violence, but not to use force unless in repelling attacks on whites, and then only on a written request from the British Columbia authorities.

NAVY GAZETTE.

ORDERED.

JAN. 6.—Lieutenant Edwin C. Pendleton, to duty at the Naval Observatory.

Master Nathaniel R. Usher, to the training ship *Saratoga*.
Lieutenant John C. Irwin, to the Navy-yard, League Island, Pa.

JAN. 8.—Passed Assistant Surgeon Henry C. Eckstein, to duty at the Naval Hospital, Philadelphia.

JAN. 9.—Master Samuel Seabury, to the training ship *New Hampshire*.

JAN. 10.—Chaplain Frank B. Rose, to the training ship *Jamestown* on the 16th of January.

Passed Assistant Engineer Samuel Gragg, to the Navy-yard, Boston.

Assistant Engineer George E. Burd, to the Navy-yard, Boston, for duty as draughtsman with Steam Engineering Department.

Gunner Richard J. Hill, to the training ship *Jamestown*.

JAN. 11.—Ensign Philip V. Lansdale, to instruction in ordnance at the Navy-yard, Washington, on the 1st of February.

Ensign George C. Foulk, to special duty in the Navy Department.

Boatswain James Nash, to the receiving ship *Wabash*.

DETACHED.

JAN. 6.—Midshipman Wm. H. Emerson, from the receiving ship *Franklin*, and ordered to the *Swatara*.

JAN. 2.—Captain James E. Jonett, from the command of the Naval Station at Port Royal, S. C., on the 12th of January, and ordered to report in person at the Department.

Lieutenant Edward T. Strong, from the training ship *Minnesota*, and ordered as executive of the *Swatara*.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Daniel M. Guiteras, from the Naval Hospital, Philadelphia, and ordered to report for duty at the Naval Dispensary, Washington, D. C.

JAN. 10.—Ensign L. W. Ripmeyer, from the training ship *Portsmouth*, and placed on waiting orders.

Boatswain Peter Johnson and Sailmaker T. B. White, from the *Swatara*, and placed on waiting orders.

JAN. 11.—Midshipman John B. Blish, from special duty, and ordered to the training ship *Jamestown*.

Midshipman Wilson W. Buchanan, from the receiving ship *Colorado*, and ordered to the training ship *Portsmouth*.

Chief Engineer Edwin Wells, from the *Marion*, and placed on waiting orders.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED.

To Assistant Engineer Frank W. Bartlett, for three months from January 11.

LEAVE EXTENDED.

The leave of absence of Passed Assistant Surgeon M. D. Jones has been extended six months.

TRANSFERRED.

Commodore Wm. E. Hopkins was transferred to the retired list of the Navy on the 10th of January.

RESIGNED.

Naval Cadet Charles E. Belden, to take effect December 31, 1882; detached from the *Alaska* and granted leave of absence until that date.

Midshipman A. C. Cunningham, to take effect February 1, 1883; detached from the training ship *Saratoga* and granted leave of absence until that date.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, JAN. 3, 1883.

G. C. M. O. 1:

Before a G. C. M., which convened at the Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H., Dec. 16, 1882, and of which Capt. A. E. K. Benham, U. S. N., was President, was arraigned and tried Chief Engineer Edwin Wells, U. S. N.

Charge—"Assaulting and striking an enlisted man in the Navy."

Specification.—"In this, that on or about July 24, 1882,

the said Edwin Wells, a chief engineer in the U. S. N., attached to the U. S. S. *Marion*, near Montevideo, Uruguay, did unlawfully and wilfully assault, strike, beat and ill treat Joseph P. Travers, a first class fireman in the U. S. N., who was then on duty in the fire room on board said ship."

To which charge and specification the accused pleaded "not guilty."

The Court having maturely considered the evidence adduced, found the specification "proved in part; proved, except the words 'strike' and 'beat.'" And the Court found the accused, of the charge, "guilty in a less degree than charged"—"guilty of assaulting an enlisted man in the Navy." The sentence was to be publicly reprimanded in General Orders by the Hon. Secretary of the Navy.

II.—The proceedings, finding, and sentence of the G. C. M. in the foregoing case of Chief Engineer Edwin Wells, U. S. N., are approved.

It appears from a careful examination of the testimony in this case that Chief Engineer Wells, disregarding the rules of propriety and requirements of discipline, approached an enlisted man, who was one of his subordinates, and with threatening language and menacing manner wilfully assaulted him—the only provocation for such assault being an alleged neglect of duty on the part of such subordinate. It is not proven that the assault was accompanied with blows, but it is clearly shown that Mr. Wells was guilty of an abusive exercise of authority and a wilful disregard of the rights of an inferior.

For the punishment of offences committed, or neglect in the performance of duty, by enlisted men, the law and regulations provide ample means—means which experience has shown to be far more effective, for the preservation of good order and discipline, than any arbitrary exercise of individual power. Whatever, therefore, may have been the offence of the man Travers, Chief Engineer Wells had no right to take into his own hands the punishment of the offender, either by a personal assault or by a threat of personal chastisement. Such conduct on the part of an officer towards a subordinate will not, under any circumstances, be tolerated by the Department.

Chief Engineer Wells should have remembered that he who would govern others should first learn to govern himself, and that nothing is more productive of discontent, and a consequent lack of prompt obedience, on the part of subordinates, than the exhibition of a tyrannical disposition, united with a disregard of legal restraints on the part of their superiors.

WILLIAM E. CHANDLER, Secretary of the Navy.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

BROOKLYN NAVY-YARD.

All the men belonging to the tug *Catalpa*, and formerly paid by the Department of Yards and Docks, have been shipped on the *Colorado* and detailed for tug duty.

Commodore J. H. Upshur, commandant, has returned from Washington and resumed his duties as commanding officer of the station.

No orders have been received as yet to reinstate the suspended foremen in the Department of Yards and Docks. In fact, unless Congress gives some extra money under the maintenance appropriation, it is expected that a general order will be issued about Feb. 1 closing up the Department of Yards and Docks at all Navy-yards and stations, as all the funds now on hand under maintenance will be expended by the last of January.

Lieut. L. C. Heilner and Mid. W. S. Sims have been detached from the *Colorado*, and Lieut. Ed. Strong from the *Minnesota*.

Owing to the continued snow storms the yard street gang have been kept on the go during the week keeping the streets and pavement clean. They hardly finish their work before another fall of snow comes along, and away they go once more with shovels and brooms to clean and sweep. This gang of men comes under the captain of the yard, and are detailed from yards and docks. They are divided into small gangs for certain portions of the yard, and are considered experts with the shovel or broom.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

BOSTON NAVY-YARD.

BOSTON, JAN. 10, 1883.

For several days past Chief Engineer E. D. Robie has been giving personal supervision to the regular quarterly examination of the yard boilers.

Chief Clerk Edwards, of the Equipment Department, has been removed, and Assistant Clerk Burr, in the same office, has been appointed to the place.

Yards and Docks Department suffered another reduction of force on Saturday last; this time among the employees under pay of preservation and repairs, including all but the foremen. As the allotment for the rest of the fiscal year is but \$1,500 per month, just \$1,000 monthly less than the accustomed appropriations, the return of some of the employees may be indefinitely postponed.

Two sailors were missing at muster Tuesday morning on the *Portsmouth*. A caulker's float alongside had also disappeared. The latter was found during the day at a wharf in the city, and it is supposed was used in their escape.

Wednesday night Watchman Reed discovered one of the *Portsmouth's* crew in the act of scaling the yard wall and took him on board.

None of the outside workmen in the Construction Department mustered Wednesday on account of the storm.

Capt. Ralph Chandler left the yard Tuesday on a week's leave. He accompanies as far as Washington Mrs. and Miss Chandler, who are en route for Florida for the benefit of Miss Chandler's health. Capt. E. P. Lull will occupy the position of executive of the yard during Capt. Chandler's absence.

The *Portsmouth* has got her sails bent and expects to leave about the 15th inst. The *Jamestown* will shortly follow.

One corporal and seven privates were transferred on board the *Portsmouth* Monday from the barracks.

Thirteen men were transferred from the *Wabash* to the *Jamestown* Tuesday.

For more than a week an investigation, by order of the Department at Washington, has been going on in what is known as the aides room, with closed doors, concerning some charges of a serious character against Superintendent Wabber, of the rope-walk, made by Mr. George Kelley, a former employee in the department. The investigation just closed has been conducted with strict privacy. The members of the board, I am informed, are as follows: Capt. Ed. P. Lull, Lieut. Comdr. G. F. F. Wilde, and Lieut. N. J. K. Patch.

DEFLECTING TURRETS FOR MONITORS.

The Secretary of the Navy transmitted to Congress, Jan. 6, the following report of the Advisory Board, recommending an appropriation for the test of the deflecting turrets for monitors, designed by P. A. Engineer N. B. Clark, U. S. N., retired. The Secretary concurs with recommendation of the Board.

NAVAL ADVISORY BOARD,
WASHINGTON, JAN. 4, 1883.

Hon. W. E. Chandler, Secretary of the Navy:

SIR: The Board having examined the plans submitted on 3d inst., by N. B. Clark, P. A. Engineer, U. S. N. (retired)

or deflecting turrets for monitors, desires that before making recommendations for the turret armament, and protection of the monitors of the *Miantonomoh* class, that opportunity may be afforded for a full investigation of the practicability of these designs. Mr. Clark's plans embody features that are novel, and entitle them to thorough experimental tests; and these tests, whilst determining the absolute value of the type of turret, would also be of the greatest value in perfecting the manufacture of such material as, in any event, is absolutely necessary for steel deck plating. The lack of experiments upon defective armor, excepting a few isolated and not entirely favorable tests, make it of the greatest importance that the board have the result of such experiments as could be easily made.

Since the turrets submitted are claimed to be applicable to monitors, the experimental tests should be of such a character as should demonstrate the value of armor arranged as proposed by Mr. Clark, compared with the ordinary cylindrical disposition, and, as thirteen inches of armor can be applied without difficulty to the cylindrical type, Clark's turrets should therefore give efficient protection against projectiles, actuated by a force sufficient to pierce a thirteen inch steel or steel faced vertical target, or not less than two hundred foot tons of energy per inch of shots circumference.

An appropriation of \$20,000 will enable these experiments to be carried out. Very respectfully, etc.,

R. W. SHUFELDT,

Commodore U. S. N.,

President of the Board.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

NEWPORT (R. I.) JOTTINGS.

NEWPORT, JAN. 12, 1883.

Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Hazard Perry Belmont and Whiting have sailed for Europe.

Mr. Charles B. Marsh, of this city, has secured a responsible position in the U. S. Engineer's office in Washington, D. C. Mr. Marsh was in the employ of the late Gen. G. K. Warren.

Gunner James Swift has reported for duty on board of the *New Hampshire*.

Gen. C. B. Dennis will inspect the Newport Artillery February 6, and the Newport Light Infantry March 6.

Assistant Surgeon L. Y. Loring has reported for duty at Fort Adams.

An association has been formed here, the object of which is to erect a statue to the memory of the late Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry. The citizens of Newport are to raise \$2,500 by subscriptions. The State voted \$7,500 and the city of Newport \$5,000 for the same object.

Mrs. Butler Price, mother of Butler D. Price, adjutant of the 4th U. S. Infantry at Fort Omaha, Nebraska, died here Wednesday morning.

Commander Clarke, commanding the *New Hampshire*, has been in New York during the week.

Commodore S. B. Luce, U. S. N., is visiting his family at this place.

The cable to connect the Torpedo Station on Goat Island, by telephone, with Newport has been successfully laid.

Capt. Thomas O. Selfridge and Lieut. Comdr. Royal B. Bradford, of the Torpedo Station, have gone to Washington on Government business, and Lieut. Comdr. T. F. Jewell has gone to Cleveland to inspect the search light machinery being made at that place for the Bureau of Ordnance.

Corporal King, of the Marine Guard on board of the *New Hampshire*, who deserted last week, is wanted here to the tune of quite a sum of money which he borrowed from his shipmates. He also went off without settling accounts contracted with business as mail orderly from the ship.

Wednesday's snow storm prevented the running of the launch between the city and Fort Adams. The Torpedo Station launch made her trips without interruption.

Midshipman Wright, U. S. N., is in town.

SPEED OF NAVAL VESSELS.

The Secretary of the Navy, Jan. 5, responding to a resolution of the House of Representatives relative to the speed of Naval vessels, transmitted the following from the Chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering, dated Jan. 3:

Hon. Wm. E. Chandler, Secretary of the Navy:

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following table, in obedience to the House resolution of December 8, 1882, requiring "the average speed per hour for twelve hours as shown by the log of each vessel in commission in the year 1882, when steaming in the ordinary course of service, and the consumption of coal per hour for each indicated horsepower when so steaming."

The figures in the table represent an average performance for each vessel during twelve consecutive hours, the various conditions of wind and weather being considered, and do not represent the best performance. The average boiler power, as indicated by the grate surface, in use by the thirty-six vessels named (leaving out the *Hartford* and *Junia*), was 70 per cent. of the total:

Name of vessel.	Average speed per hour for 12 hours, in knots.	lbs. of coal per hour for each indicated horsepower.
Minnesota.....	6.2	7.3
Tennessee.....	5.9	4.9
Powhatan.....	8.2	4.2
Lancaster.....	6.3	7.0
Brooklyn.....	7.0	5.0
Pensacola.....	5.7	3.4
Hartford.....	7.7	4.6
Richmond.....	7.4	4.6
Alaska.....	9.0	3.6
Lackawanna.....	6.3	3.8
Vandalia.....	7.4	3.5
Shenandoah.....	6.0	2.8
Junia.....	7.8	4.5
Quinnebaug.....	8.2	2.7
Swatara.....	8.3	3.6
Galena.....	7.4	4.3
Iroquois.....	7.7	2.4
Wachusett.....	7.7	6.0
Wyoming.....	8.9	6.0
Kearsarge.....	8.1	4.8
Adams.....	7.9	2.1
Alliance.....	7.6	2.5
Essex.....	7.2	8.2
Enterprise.....	7.7	2.9
Nipsic.....	6.9	3.9
Ashuelot.....	9.4	4.9
Monocacy.....	9.2	3.5
Alert.....	8.1	3.4
Ranger.....	6.0	2.8
Yantic.....	8.2	6.4
Michigan.....	9.4	3.1
Tallapoosa.....	10.7	3.7
Palos.....	8.8	3.5
Despatch.....	8.9	3.4
Montauk.....	3.7	4.2
Nantucket.....	5.1	2.4
Passaic.....	5.7	4.1

* Sufficient data not yet received.

† No report yet received.

Very respectfully,

W. H. SHOCK, Chief of Bureau.

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any delay or failure to receive the JOURNAL, so that we may give
the matter our immediate attention.

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THE bill for the relief of Fitz John Porter has passed
the Senate, and speculations are now prevalent as to
its prospects in the lower House. From conversation
with members of that body, writes our Washington
correspondent, "the information obtained would indi-
cate that the chances for favorable action at this session
are exceedingly dubious, though the opinion prevails
among those about the Capitol that the bill could be
passed if consent could be obtained to take it up for
consideration. The bill is now on the Speaker's
table; and a motion will probably be made in a few
days to have it referred to the Military Committee,
which will probably be defeated. In that event, the
House bill already in the committee will be reported,
and the chances are that it will be favorably." Soon
after the bill had been passed in the Senate, Senator
Logan said he did not feel at all alarmed at the pros-
pect of Porter's restoration. "He's a long way from
it yet," were his words. "This bill will not pass the
House. Even if it should, there are many obstacles
in the way of his restoration after that. I don't expect
to see him back in the Army, and you will have to be
pretty old before you see it."

A despatch to us from Washington, dated Jan. 12,
which we give for what it is worth, says: "President
Arthur, according to good authority, intends to veto the

Porter bill if it passes the House. Several consulta-
tions of the Cabinet have been held on the subject, and
this step will have their support."

BREVET Major-Gen. Z. B. Tower, Colonel of Engi-
neers, U. S. A., was placed on the retired list, at his
own request, Jan. 10, having served on the active list
since July, 1841, nearly 42 years. Gen. Tower deserves
well of his country, and will carry into his retirement
good wishes and high appreciation. His record is one
of continued gallant, efficient, and meritorious service.
At Cerro Gordo, Contreras, Churubusco, Chapultepec,
Fort Pickens, Cedar Mountain, Groveton, and else-
where he showed himself a gallant soldier, and in his
Corps his name is identified with practical accomplish-
ments requiring a high order of intellectual and pro-
fessional knowledge.

A LARGE number of petitions praying for the enact-
ment of a law making retirement from active service
compulsory at the age of 62 years have been received
by the House Military Committee during this session.
The law of last year making the relieving age 64 evi-
dently does not meet with the approbation of the ma-
jority of the Army. The petitions do not always come
through the House, but are frequently sent directly to
the chairman of the committee through the mail.
They come from far and near, and are signed by officers
of all ranks and grades. The following is the form of
the petition: "The undersigned, officers of the Army,
respectfully petition your honorable body in behalf of
the enactment by Congress of a law amendatory of the
statutes governing the retirement of officers from the
Army, one provision of which shall make retirement
from active service compulsory on attaining the age of
sixty-two years, thereby harmonizing the retirement
of the military with those which have worked such
advantage to the naval service, and with conceded sat-
isfaction to the personnel thereof, during almost the
last twenty years."

There is already a bill on the House calendar which
was reported favorably by the committee at the last
session, placing the retiring age at 62; but when the
64 years clause was inserted in the Appropriation bill,
its promoters gave up all hope of securing its passage.
With these petitions flowing in in such great num-
bers, it is probable that an attempt will be made to pass
the bill now on the calendar, but the chances of its
passing this Congress, our Washington correspondent
thinks, are not good.

COMMODORE William E. Hopkins, U. S. N., was
placed on the retired list of the Navy, Jan. 10, 1883.
His retirement will promote Captain James E. Jouett,
U. S. N., to the rank of commodore. Commodore
Hopkins retires after long and distinguished service,
having entered the Navy in 1839, and we hope will, for
very many years, enjoy his honors and the happy re-
pose he has earned.

THE paper of Lieut.-Commander Theodore F. Jew-
ell, U. S. N., read before the U. S. Naval Institute on
"Deep Sea Sounding," appears in Van Nostrand's
"Engineering Magazine" for January. It affords use-
ful information as to what has been accomplished in
this direction of late years. Reference is made to a
most valuable and ingenious improvement in the Thom-
son Sounding Machine, made by Lieut.-Commander
Sigsbee, U. S. N.

In our article last week on "The Nevada Trophy,"
the word "omitted" was unfortunately left out by in-
advertence after the words "officers and men" in the
eighth line from the end of the article. To the profes-
sional mind, however, we doubt not our meaning would
be plain.

LOOKING over an Army Register for 1880, it is notice-
able how many changes have taken place within the
past two years. In the Cavalry the 3d and 4th Regi-
ments have changed Colonels, having now J. P. Hatch
and Royall in place of Davidson and Mackenzie. The
grades below colonel also indicate many changes. In
the Artillery the 1st and 4th have lost Vogdes and
French, and Andrews and Getty are now in command.
In the Infantry Colonel Wilkins has succeeded to the
5th in place of General Miles, Colonel Carlin to the 4th
in place of Flint, Colonel McCook to the 6th in place of
General Hazen, Colonel Van Vost to the 9th in place
of Colonel King, Colonel Dodge to the 11th in place of
Wood, Colonel Hunt to the 14th in place of J. E.
Smith, Colonel C. C. Gilbert to the 17th in place of
Crittenden, Colonel Otis to the 20th in place of Sykes,
and Colonel Black to the 23d in place of Haller. The

corresponding changes in the lower grades are also numerous, and there also have been other changes between 1880 and 1883 not noted.

An unusual question was argued before the Court of Claims on the 9th. The name of Capt. R. W. Tyler, U. S. A., retired, of longevity fame, having appeared on the Court Calendar as an attorney in the case of Col. Marshall, of the Army, and Chief Engineer Mason, of the Navy, both longevity cases, came to the notice of the Secretary of War, which occasioned him to address a letter to Capt. Tyler, calling his attention to the provision in the Revised Statutes which prohibits any officer of the Government from prosecuting claims against the Government of the United States. The question came before the Court on a citation made by Judge Worden that the Court allow Capt. Tyler to be associated with him in the Mason case. Judge Worden in support of his motion maintained that this section of the Statutes did not apply to retired officers of the Army. On the 10th Judge Drake delivered the decision of the Court overruling Judge Worden's motion. He held that a retired officer of the Army was an officer of the Government, and therefore came under the section of the Statutes referred to.

It has been decided by the Chief of Ordnance and Secretary of War to manufacture the Chaffee-Reece gun at the National Armory, and arrangements are now being made to commence work upon them. It was at first thought by Gen. Benét that we did not have the proper facilities for making these guns, but he has since discovered that there is machinery in the Armory that can be utilized to great advantage. The Lee and Hotchkiss guns, as before stated, will be made by the Remington and Winchester Companies respectively.

Last week (JOURNAL of Jan. 6, p. 506), we published a decision by General Sherman in regard to cavalry tactics, as announced in G. O. 14, Division Missouri, of Dec. 28. The General Order, however, only contained a portion of General Sherman's remarks, and we are enabled this week to give them in full, as follows:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, A. G. O., }
WASHINGTON, December 20, 1882. }

Major Guy V. Henry, 9th Cavalry, (Through Headquarters Mt. Div. Missouri):

Sir: In reply to your communication of November 19th last relative to the place of troop commanders when passing in review, I am directed by the General of the Army to inform you that cavalry troops are marched in review in column of either companies or platoons; differing in this respect from infantry in which the line is broken only into column of companies. That when in column of companies the captain is in front of the centre of his company (troop) as prescribed in paragraph 534, Cavalry Tactics; and that when in column of platoons the captain is, as prescribed in paragraph 565, 'abreast of the leading platoon, on the side of the guide, four yards from the flank,' and there is no exception to this.

The General also desires me to say that your communication does not state whether the column referred to in your letter was formed of companies or platoons, but that in either case the method pursued at your post was incorrect, although it may be possibly better than that prescribed, but it is not deemed advisable at present to change the tactics.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. C. DRUM, Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

In response to a resolution of the House calling upon the Secretary of the Navy for copies of the orders issued between Aug. 1 and Dec. 4, by virtue of which work was ordered to be done or discontinued, or workmen to be employed or discharged in any of the Navy-yards, he replied Jan. 10 with a long list of orders. Neither the records of the department nor of the bureaus show the number of men who were employed or discharged in each case in consequence of those orders. Upon the receipt of replies to requests for this information from the commandants of the yards they will be forwarded to the House of Representatives. In addition he shows that in eight Navy-yards there were 135 more men employed on Nov. 1 than on Sept. 1, and mentions that during the sixty days immediately preceding Nov. 7 the number of men employed in the Portsmouth yard was decreased by 123.

At the annual meeting of the Washington branch of the U. S. Naval Institute, held in the board rooms of the old Navy Department building, Jan. 10, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Vice President, Comdr. W. T. Sampson; Corresponding Secretary, Lieut. John H. Moore; Member of Executive Committee, T. J. Turner.

Whether the Princess Louise has chosen Charleston, S. C., for her winter residence or Bermuda has been the agitating question in the public press this week. Gen. Sherman, like the patriotic American he is, was decidedly in favor of Charleston, and so replied to a letter on the subject from the Marquis. The latest information seems to be that the Marquis and Princess and party, now en route to the East via Arizona, will come to Charleston, there separate, the former going to Canada, via Washington, and the latter to Bermuda, about the end of January, on the British gunboat *Dido*.

The Board of Managers of the National Soldiers' Home held their regular quarterly meeting at Willard's Hotel, Tuesday afternoon. There were present Gen. Franklin, of Hartford, Conn., president; Col. L. A. Harris, Cincinnati, first vice-president; Gen. J. A. Martin, Atchison, Kan.,

second vice-president; Gen. M. T. McMahon, New York City, secretary; and Gen. O. W. Roberts, Bangor, Me.; Gen. Geo. B. McClellan, New Jersey; and Chief Justice Waite, the latter member ex-officio. Nothing but routine business was transacted.

It was expected that the Naval Appropriation Bill would have been reported to the House ere this, but the chairman of the sub-committee, Mr. Robeson, having devoted so much time to the shipping bill, which has occupied the attention of the House, the major portion of the week, the bill could not be finished and reported to the sub-committee, so that the matter stands now about as it did last week.

The Light House Board held an informal meeting at the Treasury Department, Thursday afternoon, and it was arranged that the election of the chairman of the Board to succeed the late Rear Admiral Wyman should be held on Thursday next. There is quite a lively contest in progress between Vice-Admiral Rowan, U. S. N., and Gen. O. M. Poe, U. S. A., for the place, and it is a matter of a good deal of speculation as to who will win. Those who claim to know say that the chances at present are in favor of Vice-Admiral Rowan.

The coming Legislative Appropriation Bill will contain an item repealing the law of last session authorizing the appointment of an Assistant Secretary of War and Navy. Mr. Randall introduced a bill the early part of the present session to repeal this law, and it was referred to the Appropriation Committee, where it has been decided to incorporate it in the bill just mentioned.

For some days past they have been trying the new elevators in the north wing of the State, War, and Navy Department. At the first experiment the barnacles were jostled from their hold by the jar, and as they rushed into the halls people wondered if there had been an earthquake. When apprised of the true condition of affairs they resumed their old places, and were contented until the next test took place, when similar results followed. The elevator was allowed to fall from the highest elevation to the bottom of the well. Considerable noise and raising of dust was the consequence, but not the slightest damage to the carriage or the person on it. It was weighted sufficiently to represent a full load of human beings, and heaviest statesmen need not be alarmed at entering it. The improvements are claimed to be perfect.

The House Military Affairs Committee have not had a meeting this week owing to the absence of chairman Henderson, who is absent in Illinois. There seems to be a chance of his being elected to the U. S. Senate.

The Court of Claims, on Thursday, took up the cases of Chief Engineer Henry Mason and Medical Director John Thornley, involving the question of longevity pay for officers on the retired list of the Navy. Judge R. B. Worden appeared for Mr. Mason, and Messrs. John Paul Jones and Robert B. Lines for Dr. Thornley, the Government being represented by Mr. Frank H. Howe. The argument in the Mason case was concluded and the Court reserved its decision. The Thornley case will be continued on Monday.

The Board to examine the different yards, Commodore Luce President, will leave Washington this week for Pensacola to inspect the yard there. This will complete their labors as far as inspection is concerned, and a report on the Pensacola, as well as the other yards, will be submitted to Congress during the present month.

At the fourth annual meeting of the Army Mutual Aid Association, held in the library of the Army Medical Museum building, Washington, Jan. 9, the following officers were all re-elected for the ensuing year: Captain George W. Davis, President; General W. B. Rochester, Paymaster General, Vice President; General R. C. Drum, Adjutant General, and General C. H. Crane, Surgeon General, as Executive Committee; and Colonel Frank Bridgman, Secretary and Treasurer. The report of the Treasurer for the year ending December 31, 1882, shows a total membership of 839; total amount paid to beneficiaries, \$30,113.82, leaving assets of \$14,062.10, all of which is invested in United States bonds. The net gain over the year 1881 amounts to \$4,240.81, which is indeed encouraging. The report of the meeting and the business of the year, together with a list of all the members of the Association, will be distributed immediately.

The House Naval Committee, on the 9th, agreed to recommend to the Appropriation Committee to incorporate in the Naval Appropriation bill an item of \$200,000 for torpedoes, and \$20,000 for testing the defective steel armor for monitors, which were designed by P. A. Engineer Clark, U. S. N., retired. The committee accepted an invitation from the Secretary of the Navy to make a trip on the *Montonomah*, on Saturday, Jan. 13. Members of the House and the Senate Appropriation Committees, and the heads of bureaus of the Navy Department will also make the trip. It is proposed to leave the Washington Navy Yard at 11 A. M., and proceed down the Potomac about twenty miles, and return about 5 o'clock in the evening. Preparations are now being made aboard her for the trip, and it is expected that she will surpass the very good record she made on her way from the Norfolk Yard to Washington.

The north wing of the State, War and Navy Department building has been ready for occupancy for some time, and the officials would have moved in ere this but for the delay of the special commission of Congress on the apportionment of the rooms in making their report. This commission has held several meetings recently, but for some reason or other has been unable to agree. It is hinted that the State Department officials are using their influence to have the top floor of their building, which is now occupied by a portion

of the Adjutant General's office, vacated and restored to them; and this, it is said, has caused the hitch. The commission will hold another meeting during the week, and it is hoped will come to some conclusions. The act provides that they shall submit a copy of their report to each of the three Secretaries, which shall be final.

Assistant Adjutant General Ruggles has resumed his official duties, though he has not entirely recovered from the severe cold which confined him to his room for a week or more. Assistant Adjutant General McKeever has also recovered from his cold and resumed his duties.

The officers of the Mutual Aid Society of the Navy held a meeting at the Navy department on Tuesday for the purpose of authorizing the payment of a beneficiary to the widow of Lieut. Samuel F. Clarkson, who died at Nice, France, on Monday. The amount will be something over \$3,000.

General Grant's presence in Washington recently has caused great anxiety amongst the gossips. The latest story is that it is to secure the position of Quartermaster General of the Army for General A. J. Perry, U. S. A., when General Ingalls retires. Try again.

The special committee on heavy ordnance did not meet on Saturday last as was expected, Senator Logan not being able to sit, having overworked himself in the early part of the week on his speech on the Fitz John Porter bill. The committee was to meet again Saturday, January 13th, when Col. Crispin, of the Ordnance Department, would probably be heard.

The sub-committee of the Senate on the Army Appropriation bill will not begin work on that measure until the latter part of the week, as Senator Plumb, who is one of the members of the sub-committee, is absent. The clause in the bill as it came from the House abolishing the Pay Department, creates, naturally, a good deal of unfavorable comment in some Army circles, and strenuous efforts are being made by those possessing influence to defeat it. It may not be safe to say what the sub-committee will do with this feature of the bill, they not having met yet, but as Senator Logan has charge of the bill, and it is known that he is opposed to this item of legislation, it is fair to suppose that when the bill comes from the committee the clause relating to the abolition of the Pay Department will be stricken out or amended in some shape.

Major John P. Baker, the recently appointed paymaster, has been assigned to temporary duty in the office of the paymaster general at Washington, relieving Paymaster Smythe, who leaves Washington this week for his new station in the Department of Missouri.

UNDER mutual arrangements Capt. H. F. Brewerton, U. S. Artillery, goes to Fort Schuyler to take over Battery K of his regiment, and Capt. Chas. Morris, now commanding that battery, goes to Fort Monroe, Va., to command Battery C, lately vacated by Capt. Randolph.

GEN. John Newton and Col. Chas. Stewart, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A., are to sit in New York and San Francisco respectively, at an early date, as presidents of boards to examine Lieuts. Bergland, Greene and Price, of the corps, for prospective promotion.

PAYMASTER Wm. J. Thompson, U. S. N., in charge of the U. S. Coast Survey office, Baltimore Custom House, has been stopping at the River View House, Oxford, Md., and has been quite successful in shooting ducks.

THE Army was represented at the 7th N. Y. regiment ball at their armory, New York, on Thursday evening, by Gen. R. H. Jackson, Capt. J. A. Fessenden, Lieuts. H. J. Reilly, D. D. Johnson and S. F. Massey, Capt. E. S. Godfrey, W. E. Van Reed and S. A. Day, Lieut. O. E. Wood, Col. F. W. Benteen, etc.; the Navy, by Paymaster T. T. S. Thompson, Lieut. E. J. Arthur, Captain Jas. H. Gillis, Commander E. M. Shepard, Lieut. Comdr. F. A. Miller, etc.

ASST. Surgeon Benj. Munday, U. S. A., has got comfortably settled at Fort Klamath, Oregon.

MAJ. R. F. Bernard, 8th U. S. Cavalry, has been assigned by Gen. Augur to duty at Fort Clark, Texas.

LIEUT. G. M., Courage, British navy, sailed from New York for Liverpool, January 11, on the *Adriatic*.

COMMODORE S. R. Franklin, U. S. N., registered at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York, January 12.

ASST. Surgeon G. F. Wilson, U. S. A., has rejoined at Fort Townsend, W. T., from a two weeks' leave.

UNDER recent orders Gen. Augur's chief quartermaster, Col. Lee, takes charge of the Quartermaster's Depot at San Antonio, in addition to his other duties; Capt. L. E. Campbell, assistant quartermaster, heretofore in charge of depot, acts as assistant to Col. Lee; and Assistant Surgeon Middleton relinquishes duty as attending surgeon at Headquarters Department of Texas, but remains on duty as medical officer of the post of San Antonio.

THE accident in New York to 1st Lieut. O. E. Wood, 5th U. S. Artillery, from the operations of the Steam Heating Company, referred to last week, was more serious than imagined. He had a very narrow escape from either losing his life or breaking his leg. As it was he was confined to his quarters for a week, and unable to do any duty. The accident seems to have been due to gross carelessness on the part of the employees of the company, and the lieutenant has placed his case in the hands of Mr. S. B. Chittenden, of New York, with a view to teach them a lesson.

LIEUT. C. A. L. Totten, 4th U. S. Artillery, was expected in New York the latter part of the week, on his return trip from Florida to Fort Adams, R. I.

Mrs. Henry, the wife of Bvt. Col. Guy V. Henry, 9th Cav., is spending the winter East, at her home in New York.

LIEUT. P. P. Powell, 9th Cav., of Fort Sill, I. T., is en-

gaged to be married to Miss Hicks of New York, cousin of Mrs. Col. Henry. The marriage, it is reported, will take place some time in February. Lieut. Powell is a brother-in-law of the Hon. Randolph Tucker, M. C. from Virginia.

A MONTH's trial of the Gifford gymnasium sent to Fort Sill has resulted in every case in development of chest and expansion of arm and leg muscles, and in weight of individuals. Lieut. Ripley, 24th Inf., had charge, and his report on the subject to Department Headquarters was quite interesting.

BILLS INTRODUCED INTO CONGRESS.

The following is a list of bills, military petitions, etc., introduced in Congress during the last week, together with some introduced during the two weeks previously, which have either not been noted here, or of which we have received the full text since giving their titles:

S. 305, for the relief of the heirs of Richard W. Meade. Dec. 27, Mr. Fry obtained consent to have printed his reply to views of minority committee.

S. 621, Walker, Dec. 29, to provide for the sale of the sale of the Cherokee reservation in Arkansas, introduced from the Committee on Public Lands, with an amendment.

S. 2313, Sherman, Jan. 4, to revive and promote the commerce of the United States.

In Senate, Jan. 5, H. R. 7077, Army appropriation bill was introduced and referred.

S. 2199, Miller, of Cal.—That the Secretary of the Interior be authorized and directed to place upon the pension roll, subject to the provisions and limitations of the pension laws, the name of Caroline McDougal, widow of Rear Admiral David S. McDougal, late of the U. S. N., and pay her a pension of \$50 per month from and after the passage of this act.

S. 2311, Hoar, That the President of the United States is hereby authorized to nominate and, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint George S. P. Bradford, now an ordnance sergeant in the U. S. A., a military storekeeper in the Army to be retired.

S. 2314, Miller, Jan. 5, providing additional pay for officers rendered supernumerary and honorably mustered out under the act of July 15, 1870. That all commissioned officers of the Regular Army who were rendered supernumerary and honorably mustered out of service under the provisions of section 12 of the act of July 15, 1870, entitled "An act making appropriations for the support of the Army for the year ending June 30, 1871, and for other purposes," and who served during the late civil war, shall receive as additional pay and compensation one year's pay for each five years of his service as such officer, not exceeding three years pay in all: *Provided*, That this act shall not apply to any officer who, subsequent to his muster out under said act of July 15, 1870, has been reappointed to the Army and re-entered the military service.

Jan. 8, S. 2335, Miller, to authorize the Secretary of War to erect a monument to commemorate the services of the late General G. K. Warren.

S. 2347, Plumb, Jan. 11, to amend section 4603 R. S., so as to read as follows: "Any person not a soldier in the Army, serving for the time being as a member of the militia of any State, under orders of an officer of the United States, or who volunteered for the time being to serve with any regularly organized military or naval force of the United States, or who otherwise volunteered and rendered service in any engagement with the rebels or Indians, disabled in consequence of wounds or injury received in the line of duty in such temporary service. But no claim of a State militiaman, or non-enlisted person, on account of disability from the wounds or injury received in battle with rebels or Indians while temporary rendering service, shall be valid unless prosecuted to a successful issue prior to the first day of January, 1885.

S. 2348, Jan. 11, to allow the State of Kansas such sums of money, not exceeding \$20,000, as said State may have expended during the years 1879, 1880 and 1881, in defending the southern and western borders of that State against Indian invasions.

Senate, Call, Jan. 3, petition of citizens of Tampa, Fla., praying that the Fort Brooke military reservation near that town be retained for military purposes as a reservation, or that it shall be granted to the town for certain public purposes.

Senate, Jan. 4, petition of underwriters, merchants and masters of vessels engaged in the coasting trade of the United States, praying for the establishment of a light-ship at Cape Hatteras Shoals.

In Senate, Jan. 8, Cameron, the petition of a large number of prominent men and physicians of Pennsylvania, praying for the passage of the bill now before the Committee on Military Affairs, authorizing the appointment of Dr. A. P. Frick as an assistant surgeon in the Army.

H. R. 6932, Barr—Whereas Assistant Engineer Howard D. Potts, U. S. Navy, was placed on the retired list of the Navy on account of disabilities incurred "not in the line of duty" without sufficient evidence to justify a finding in his case that such disabilities were not so incurred in the line of duty; therefore, etc., that the President be, and he is hereby authorized to place the name of Assistant Engineer Howard D. Potts, U. S. Navy, on the retired list for disabilities incurred "in the line of duty." Sec. 2. That the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized and directed to readjust his pay accounts, and to pay to him the difference of pay allowed to retired assistant engineers placed on the retired list for disabilities incurred "not in the line of duty" and the pay allowed to retired assistant engineers of the Navy placed on the retired list for disabilities incurred "in the line of duty."

H. R. 6974, Henderson—That the provisions of the act of Congress concerning the Pay Department of the Army, approved Aug. 13, 1841, be, and they hereby are, extended and applied to the regular and volunteer

paymasters of the Army who served during the war of the rebellion; and that a sum sufficient to pay the amounts so allowed is hereby appropriated: *Provided*, That this act shall not apply to any paymaster who was dishonorably dismissed from the service: *And provided further*, That in case the accounts of any of said paymasters shall remain unsettled, and it shall appear that they are indebted to the Government, the sums to which such paymasters would be entitled under this act shall be credited to their account on the books of the Treasury.

H. R. 7095, Curtin—That in order to make full and adequate compensation to Josephine Suffczynski Jaroska and Casimer Suffczynski, sole heirs at law, legal representatives, and descendants of Gen. Count Casimer Pulaski, for his sacrifices and eminent services as a brigadier general, made and rendered to the United States in the war of American independence, and finally the forfeiture of his life at the siege before Savannah, Ga., on October 9, 1799, there be paid to such heirs, legal representatives, and descendants the sum of \$150,000 for the same, as well as an award or gratuity, and in satisfaction of all claims, pay, and emoluments of a brigadier general during the time he was in service of the United States, also all pensions and all other claims whatsoever; which said sum shall be considered in full discharge of all claims and demands of such heirs, legal representatives, and descendants against the United States, and that the same be paid out of any moneys which may be in the Treasury and not otherwise appropriated.

H. R. 7096, B. W. Harris—That the Secretary of the Interior be, and he hereby is, authorized and directed to place on the pension roll the name of William R. Browne, late a volunteer lieutenant commanding in the U. S. Navy, at a pension of \$30 per month, from and after the date of the passage of this bill, that being the amount awarded him by special act of Congress approved Feb. 7, 1879.

H. R. 7150, Holman—That no claim against the Quartermaster, Commissary, or Engineer Department, or no claim for compensation for property lost in the military service of the United States, shall be entertained unless presented before the expiration of two years from the date at which the claim accrued; *Provided, however*, That no such claim which originated more than one year previous to the date of this act shall be barred by its limitation, if the same shall be presented within one year after the date of this act. That no claim heretofore barred shall be deemed to be revived or the time for its presentation extended by operation of this act. That no claim under the act of March 2, 1861, which provided for payment of expenses incurred by the Territories of Oregon and Washington in the Indian war of 1855 and 1856, or no claim under the act of July 17, 1854, which authorized the Secretary of War to settle and adjust the expenses of the Rogue River Indian war, or no claim under the act of February 2, 1871, which extended the provisions of said act of July 17, 1854, to two companies of Oregon volunteers, or no claim under the joint resolution of Feb. 28, 1877, which authorized the payment of 20 percentum additional compensation to certain employees, etc., in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1887, shall be entertained unless the same shall be presented to the proper department within one year after the date of this act. That no final decision made by the accounting officers of the Treasury upon any claim shall be opened or reconsidered unless authority in writing for such opening or reconsideration be given by the Secretary of the Treasury within two years after the date of such decision; but the provisions of this section shall not operate to open any case which, under existing laws and rules, would be excluded from such opening. That if any claim shall be allowed by the accounting officers of the Treasury under an appropriation the balance of which has been or may be exhausted or carried to the surplus fund, it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury, at the beginning of the regular session of Congress, to report such allowance to Congress.

H. R. 7164, Ketcham, to authorize the Secretary of War to erect a monument to commemorate the services of the late Gouverneur K. Warren, authorizes and directs the Secretary of War to expend, out of the moneys hereinafter appropriated, a sum not to exceed \$15,000, in the erection of a suitable monument at the birthplace of Gen. Gouverneur K. Warren, in the village of Cold Spring, Putnam Co., N. Y., on a rectangular piece of ground belonging to the Parrot estate, and situated on the brow of the hill immediately above the West Point Foundry, and overlooking the Hudson River and West Point, with such inscriptions and emblems as may properly commemorate the services of the late Gen. Warren: *Provided*, That the grounds aforesaid are given to the United States for said purpose.

H. R. 7176, Deuster, restoring to inmates of national military homes money retained out of their pensions as fines or penalties, authorizes and directs the Secretary of the Treasury to refund, out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to the present or former inmates of military homes, the amount of fines, penalties, or other deductions imposed as punishment for any violations of the rules of said homes, and withheld by the respective managements thereof out of the pension money due such inmates.

H. R. 7190, Beltzhoover, fixing and defining the duties of the Signal Service, transfers so much of the business of the Signal Service as relates to meteorological observations, storm signalings, and forecasts to the Interior Department; makes one Chief Signal Officer of the Army, who shall have the rank of colonel, and one assistant, with the rank of major, whose duties shall relate solely to military signaling and military telegraphing; and the lieutenants of the Signal Corps now in service shall be assigned to regiments of the line on or before the 1st of June, 1883: *Provided*, That until the present Chief Signal Officer shall have vacated his office the rank thereof shall remain unchanged.

H. R. 7191, Forney, making appropriations for fortifications and other works of defence: That the sum of \$175,000 be, and the same is hereby, appropriated for the protection, preservation, and repair of fortifications and other works of defence for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1884; also the following for the armament of fortifications: For the armament of sea-coast fortifications, including heavy guns and howitzers for flank defence, carriages, projectiles, fuses, powder, and implements, their trial and proof, and all necessary expenses incident thereto, including compensation of draughtsmen on gun-construction while employed in Ordnance Bureau, and for machine guns, including the conversion of smooth-bore cannon into rifles, \$100,000. For torpedoes for harbor defences, and the preservation of the same, and for torpedo experiments in their application to harbor and land defence, and for instruction of Engineer Battalion in their preparation and application, \$50,000: *Provided*, That the money herein appropriated for torpedoes shall only be used in the establishment and maintenance of torpedoes to be operated from shore stations for the destruction of an enemy's vessel approaching the shore or entering the channels and fairways of harbors. Total sum recommended by this bill is \$325,000; total appropriated for the service of the year ending June 30, 1883, for same purpose, \$375,000.

H. R. 7192, Steele—To equalize the bounties of soldiers, sailors, and marines: That there shall be paid to each and every non-commissioned officer, musician, artificer, wagoner, and private soldier, sailor, and marine, including those borne upon the rolls as slaves and Indians, who faithfully served as such in the military service of the United States, who have been honorably discharged from such service, the sum of \$8½ a month for all the time which such non-commissioned officer, musician, artificer, wagoner, or private soldier, sailor, or marine actually so served between the 12th of April, 1861, and the 9th of May, 1865.

Sec. 3. That in computing the bounty, there shall be deducted therefrom all bounties already paid under the provisions of any United States laws.

Sec. 9. That no adjustment or payment of any claim shall be made, unless the application be filed within five years of the passage of the same; and the provisions of this act shall extend to all soldiers who were mustered into the service of the United States and who were subsisted, clothed, and paid by the Government of the United States.

H. R. 7193, O'Neill, Pensions Appropriation bill. The sums recommended for the year ending June 30, 1884, are as follows: For Army pensions, \$80,000,000; for Navy pensions, \$1,000,000; for fees of examining surgeons, \$275,000; for pay and allowances of pension agents, \$290,000; contingent expenses, \$10,000; total, \$81,575,000. There is also reappropriated the unexpended balances of the appropriations made for the current fiscal year of the two first items that may remain unexpended at its close.

Jan. 8, H. R. 7219, Oury—To reduce the limit of Fort Lowell Military Reservation in the Territory of Arizona.

H. R., Henderson, Dec. 27, petition of Justin M. Brown for restoration to the U. S. Army.

H. R., McCord, Dec. 27, petition of James Putnam relating to the employment of certain special agents in Quartermaster's Department.

In the House, Jan. 5, Hoblitzell, petition of Chamber of Commerce of Baltimore, protesting against transfer of the Revenue Marine Service to the Navy Department. It says: "The Revenue Marine being an important adjunct of the Custom-house, and vitally necessary in the facilitation of the interests of the commerce of the country, should be under the exclusive control of the Treasury Department, as at present. We therefore pray your honorable body not to entertain the proposed change, as it would undoubtedly be detrimental to the best interests of the country. And we also call the attention of your honorable body to the bill now pending before you to promote the efficiency of the Revenue Marine Service, and to ask its passage at an early day of the present session."

In the House, Jan. 6, G. R. Davis, petition of Col. George A. Forsyth and nine others, officers U. S. A., on duty at Fort Cummings, for passage of law making retirement from active service compulsory at the age of sixty-two.

Mr. Flower, petition of Alvin Walker, late major and paymaster U. S. A., for a pension.

In House, Jan. 8, petition of 100 officers of the U. S. Army, praying for retirement from active service at sixty-two.

In House, Jan. 8, petition of citizens of Pat-in-Bay, Lake Erie, and other islands and towns contiguous thereto, for the erection by the United States of a monument at Put-in-Bay over the graves of the officers and men who fought and fell under Commodore Perry in achieving the great naval victory of Sept. 10, 1813.

Department of the Platte.—According to the Omaha Herald, General Howard has, for the action of the War Department, plans and specifications for enlarging and rebuilding forts Omaha, Russell and Niobrara. The plans for the buildings and improvements at Fort Omaha contemplate: Two buildings for field officers' quarters, six buildings for captains' quarters, nine double buildings for lieutenants' quarters, three men's barracks, one chapel, one guardhouse, one magazine, one workshop, one oil house; also additions and alterations to four barracks, additions and repairs to officers' quarters already in existence; also providing for a system of drainage and the necessary fencing. The carrying out of the plans submitted will enlarge the capacity of Fort Omaha from a seven company to a ten company post (exclusive of its artillery quarters); Fort Russell from a seven company to a ten company post, and Fort Niobrara from a four company to an eight company post. The plans were drawn by G. W. Field, the architect in the quartermaster's department at headquarters, who has designed among other buildings the four neat and solid structures for officers' quarters erected at Fort Omaha last year. The total cost of the projected improvements at Fort Omaha is estimated at about \$160,000.

(From the London Engineer, Nov. 24.)

THE SPEZZIA ARMOR-PLATE EXPERIMENTS.

The Italian authorities having adopted for the bar-bette towers of the *Raisa* and *Lepanto* plates of a thickness of 48 cm. (18.9 in.), instituted a trial of such plates by means of the 100-ton muzzle loading gun supplied by Sir W. Armstrong and Co. to the *Duilio*, the firing charge of this gun being sufficiently reduced for this purpose. The trial of the plates was partly competitive, for although the armor for the *Italia* has been already ordered from Messrs. Cammell, the order for the *Lepanto* plates has not been yet given, and experiments are required to arrive at the best description of plate for all future supplies of thick armor. We have spoken of it, however, as competitive in a limited sense, because there has been so little experience with regard to compound armor of great thickness, that neither of the representatives of Messrs. Cammell's nor Brown's firms offer their plates with confidence as fairly representing what they wish to manufacture. Further, we may add that Messrs. Cammell specially requested that samples of their plates might be tested before fulfilling their contract for the *Italia*. In their present condition the plates to be tried may be described as follows: The dimensions of all are the same, namely, 3.3 m. x 2.62 m. x 48 cm. (10 ft. 10 in. x 8 ft. 7 in. x 18.9 in.) the weight of each plate being nearly 31½ tons. Three kinds of plates were tried, one from each of the firms above mentioned, namely, Cammell's, Brown's and Schneider's.

No. 1, Cammell's, consists of a wrought iron foundation plate, with a steel face applied on the system known as Wilson's patent, the steel being run on the face of the wrought iron, and the whole rolled down from a thickness of about 80 in. to 18.9 in. The steel, extending to a depth of about 6 in. in the finished plate, contains about 0.65 per cent. of carbon. Mr. Wilson, who represents Cammell's firm here, stated before the trial began that he considered that owing to imperfect means the plate was not sufficiently worked, and that to do justice to the system it should have been brought down from 86 in. original thickness.

No. 2, Brown's plate, differed from the above in having a thin rolled steel face plate of about 3 in. thick attached to the wrought iron foundation plate by molten steel, in place of allowing the molten steel itself to form the face. This is on what is known as Ellis's patent—the object of which is to secure a well rolled steel face. The total thickness of steel was the same as that of Cammell's plate, that is, about 6 in., but it was slightly harder, containing about 0.7 per cent. of carbon. The remark as to insufficient rolling applies to this as well as to Cammell's plate. Both of them were bolted on to backing hereafter described, by means of six bolts, each of soft steel screwed into the back of the plates to a depth of 4½ in., in screw holes 5½ in. deep, in positions shown in Fig. 10. The diameter of the bolt end was 4½ in., on which was a plus thread on the Palliser system; the bolt fitted the hole tight to keep out water, but when clear of the plate was reduced to about 3½ in. in diameter to ensure elongation in preference to yielding in the screwed part. The rear end of each bolt was secured by a washer fixed on a similar screwed thread to the front end, holding against the back face of the backing.

3. Schneider's—Crescent Company—plate consisted wholly of steel. It is said to contain about 0.45 per cent. of carbon. The face was chilled by lowering it to a depth of 6 in. into oil. It was afterwards slightly annealed, so it is said, but no authentic information as to its manufacture is furnished by Messrs. Schneider and Co. This plate was secured by twenty screw bolts, each 4½ in. diameter, with a thread ½ in. pitch, screwed into the back of the plate to a depth of 2½ in. The position of these bolts may be seen in Fig. 11.

The structure of the target backing and supports may be seen in Figs. 1 and 2. Each plate was set in an iron frame made of three thicknesses of strips of 6 in. armor, the width of the frame being about 33 in., and the thickness about 18 in. These were bolted to the backing as shown in Fig. 3. The supporting frames seen in Fig. 1 were about 2 ft. apart from edge to edge. Each plate frame had a long prop at each end, extending from the top towards the front, shown in Fig. 1. On the whole it may be seen that the backing and framing were fairly strong, and had the frames been held together at the corners they would have been very powerful. In the backing it appears as if it might have been some improvement to have placed the oak balks in the second and fourth rows vertically, instead of those in the third row only.

The projectiles were of Gregorini chilled iron. They were about 4½ in. long and 17.64 in. in diameter, the head being struck with a radius of 1½ diameters, and the bottom made to take the original Elswick gas check employed with them. The weight was 896 kg. (1975.3 lb.); with gas check, 907 kg. (2000 lb.). Their quality is better discussed in connection with their effects. Speaking generally, it appeared to us much better than that of the competitive shot of Gregorini iron cast in our own Royal Laboratory, these projectiles resembling much more nearly the Finspong shot employed in the English competition. We should suppose the iron to be rather soft for chilled metal, but to hold very well together, and therefore to try a hard plate more severely than our own chilled projectiles, which penetrate soft iron admirably, but break easily against a hard face.

On November 16 the firing was commenced. The first three rounds were to be fired under strictly similar conditions, the firing charge being 149 kg. (329.85 lb.) of Fossano progressive powder, which was calculated to give the projectile sufficient energy to perforate 10 in. of wrought iron at the distance of the target. The spots aimed at may be seen in Fig. 3. They were struck almost exactly in each case, the shooting being admirable, in spite of a swell causing a considerable heave of the raft on which the gun was mounted, as on previous occasions. The targets stood in the order we have given above, reading from left to right. Cammell's plate was first attacked.

In round 1 the shot struck Cammell's plate on the spot shown in Fig. 4, with a striking velocity of 371.5 m. (1219 ft.), having therefore 20,600 foot-ton energy, or 374.7 foot-ton per inch circumference, and penetrative power equal to 19.28 in. of wrought iron. The plate was completely broken through in the thick crack shown in Fig. 4, while hair cracks were developed as shown in thin lines. The shot itself, of course, broke up, but it had held well together for a chilled projectile. No indentations made by fragments were to be seen round the portion of the head left in the plate, which projected about 5 in. It was scored and rubbed smoother than an English shot, and felt very hot to the touch, arguing, as we think, the tenacity and comparative softness which we have attributed to it. The rear part of the shot was broken into four large, two medium, and many small pieces. The plate face was flat—that is, free from bending. The iron frame had yielded outwards to the extent of from 4 in. to 6 in. near the point of impact—vide Fig. 4. One long front support was thrown down, and a number of bolt heads in front broken, and some cut by shot, fragments, etc. The whole plate was set back 3 in. at the end struck. In rear one large plate bolt was broken, and several small backing and frame bolts. The depth of the indent could only be guessed by the apparent diameter of the portion of head in plate. This is deceptive, especially with soft shot which set up.

Round No. 2 was fired at Schneider's plate, leaving the centre one—Brown's—to the last. The charge and projectile were as before. The striking velocity was 375.5 m. (1,232 ft.), having therefore 21,050 foot-ton energy, or 379.8 foot-ton per inch circumference, and a penetrative power equal to 19.49 in. of wrought iron. The plate resisted admirably, showing no cracks at all. The shot had behaved much as in round No. 1. The depth of indent could not be easily estimated. The fragment of shot was apparently much larger than that in the Cammell plate, projecting about 6½ in., the plate being slightly raised or bulged in the surrounding region. The rear portion of the projectile was broken up into small pieces. The iron frame was started, opening about 5 in. near point of impact, as shown in Fig. 5. At the back several small backing and bolt heads were snapped off, but none of the large plate bolts.

Round No. 3 was fired at Brown's plate, and struck near the desired point, Fig. 6. The striking velocity of this shot was about 372.5 m. (1,222 ft.), having therefore 20,710 foot-ton energy, or 373.8 foot-ton per inch circumference, and a penetrative power equal to 19.33 in. of iron. This shot broke up more than those hitherto fired, leaving a smaller portion of the head in the plate projecting about 2½ in., the indent being apparently but slight. No deep indentations were made round it, though rather deeper bruises than in the other plates. The plate showed a narrow long crack in the position shown in Fig. A, B, due apparently to a sort of wave or bend-back, made by the whole plate at the end struck. Some hair cracks were also developed. The plate had bodily moved back about 2 in. and at right bottom—corner struck—about 4 in. The face appeared slightly concave in the region of the point of impact. At the rear some small frame and backing bolts had snapped, but no large plate bolts.

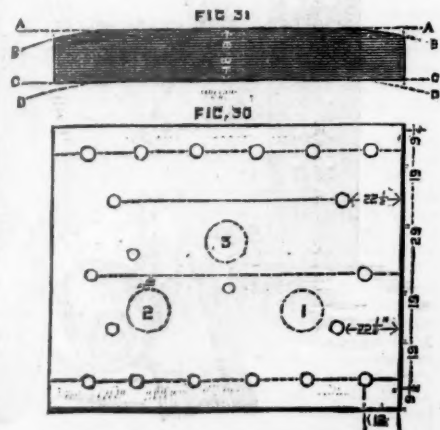
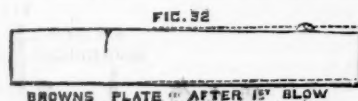
Without waiting for subsequent rounds it is well to record impressions of effects, whether right or wrong. At this stage then the steel had stood admirably. Cammell's plate had yielded the most of the three; Brown's had stood very well indeed, having broken its projectile up with much the least penetration of the three. It was suggested that the projectile was an inferior one, but it must be remembered that this plate had the hardest face. The general behavior of the plate bending bodily while the hard face cracked but broke up the projectile, was very much what might be looked for in a compound plate combining a hard face with a soft tough foundation plate. In their present stage undoubtedly Schneider's plate shows least the destructive effects of the three, but it is to be remembered that steel ought to show at its best at the first blow, and the compound iron under repeated firing. The cracking of the face of the latter ought not to be serious, while more work may be done in the steel than appears. It is proposed to test the plates much more severely in the next rounds, the shot having sufficient velocity to penetrate 60 cm. (23.6 in.) of wrought iron instead of 48 cm. (18.9 in.). In other words, supposing the plates to possess one-fourth greater resistance than wrought iron of similar thickness, they, the shot, is to be a full match for them.

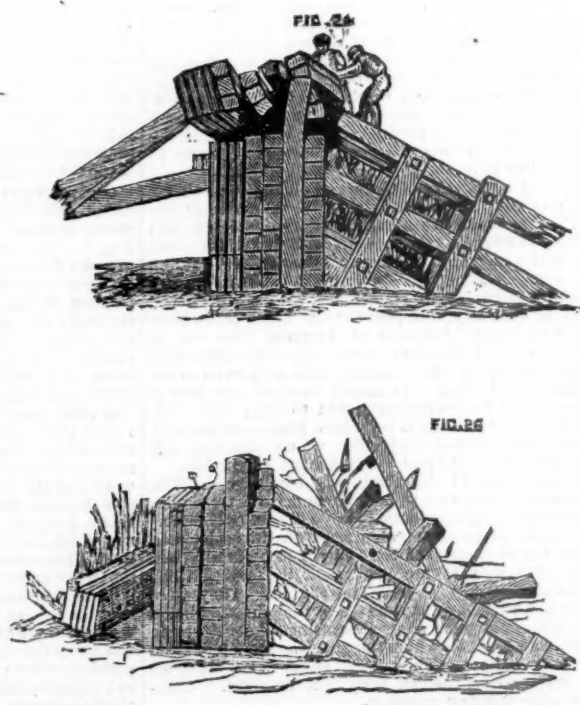
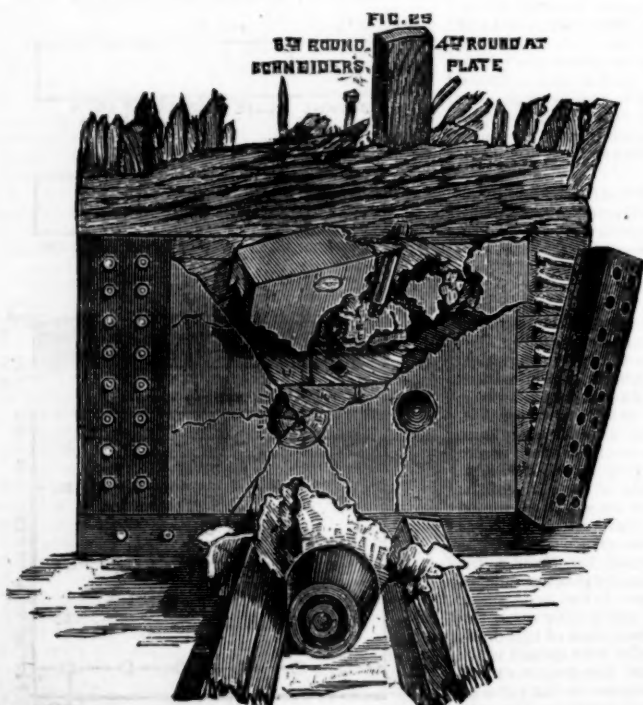
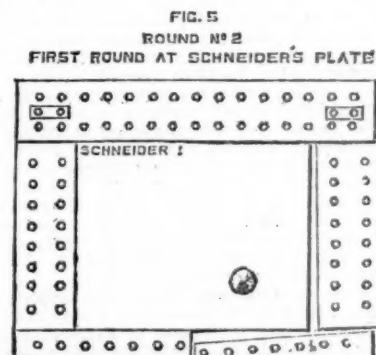
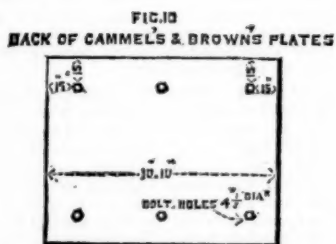
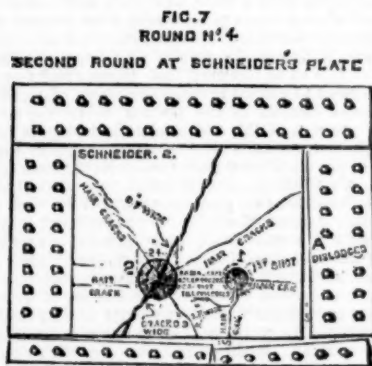
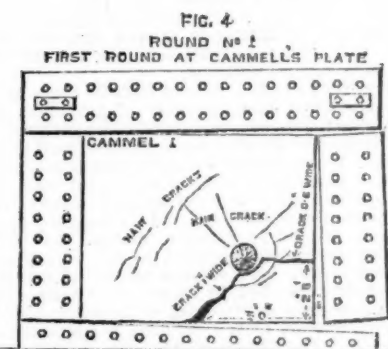
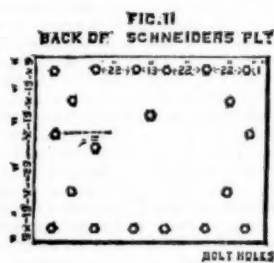
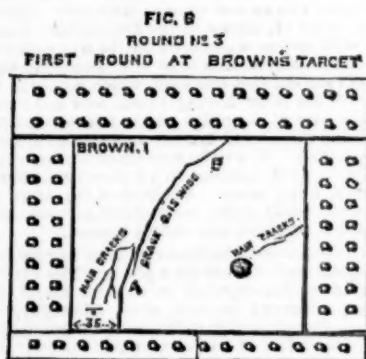
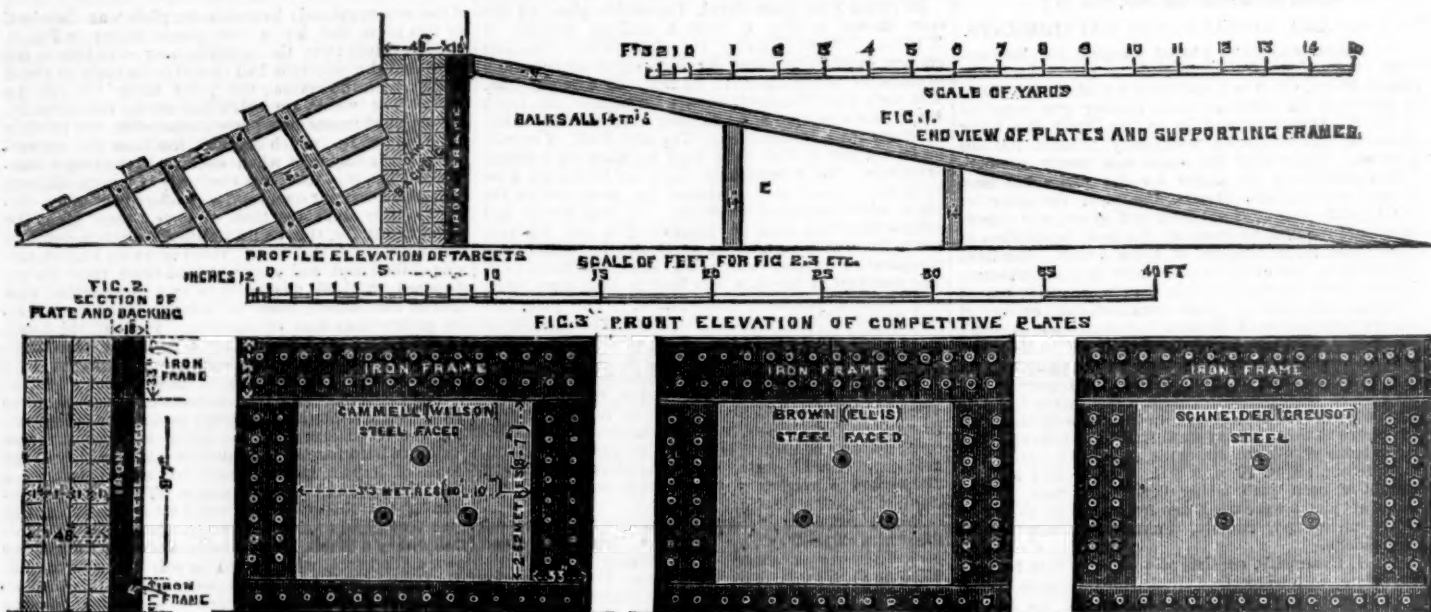
On November 17 the firing was continued. The first round—No. 4 of the series—was directed at Schneider's plate, striking near the bull's-eye at a spot shown in Fig. 7. The striking velocity was 471 m. (1545 ft.) giving a total energy of 83,100 foot-ton, or 326.9 foot-ton per inch circumference, and a penetration or perforation of iron equal to 24.7 in. This shot struck near the bull's-eye, see 2, Fig. 7, evidently penetrating deep into the plate, the following effects being visible: The portion of the projectile lodged in the target measured about 18 in. across, there being a ring of closely marked scores and dents, making a disc of about 2 ft. diameter. The plate split vertically across in lines shown in Fig. 7; the plate continued to talk or crackle for many minutes, cracks forming and opening until the main fissure running down the left branch of fork was about 0.9 in. wide near the bottom, 0.7 in. wide a little above the shot, and the shot had opened into two parts separated about 5 in. in the widest part, vide sketch Fig. 8; a ring crack also ran partly round the centre mass of the shot. The whole target was heated for about a foot round the edge of the shot, the shot itself being intensely hot. The interrupted character of the main crack near the top, as well as that of the smaller ones, was very characteristic. The right hand fork of this crack was about 0.2 in. wide. Hair cracks were opened in the positions shown in Fig. 7. These appeared to extend to a considerable depth, a very small one on the left edge visibly extending completely through the plate. The head

of the shot previously lodged in the plate was dislodged by this blow, and lay in two pieces, shown in Fig. 9. It was evident from the impression or shot hole in the plate that the projectile had turned to an angle of about 10 deg. with the normal, the point being towards the right. The whole projectile had set up considerably, the depth of indent being now measurable, and proving to be only 8½ in., which is much less than the appearance of the fragment when sticking in the target indicated. The shot itself was obviously of a very different character from our own service Palliser projectiles, being probably still softer than we have already given the metal credit for, the chill extending only to a depth of about 1 in., and the metal yielding as no English service chilled shot will yield. At the same time we are disposed to think that it is a more formidable shot against hard armor, from its tenacity being considerably greater than that of our own. In short, the disappointment we expressed in the behavior of the Gregorini shot when fired in our English competition in 1877 is in a measure explained to us now in seeing its performances here. The iron appears to be excellent for firing against hard armor when perforation is impossible, and when, therefore, the object is to get the projectile to hold together and deliver all its energy at the point of impact, but it is much too soft to perforate a clean hole through soft iron plates. Thus, our impression is that this projectile would set up, and so fail to give very good results when required to perforate soft iron nearly a match for it, while, on the other hand, our own chilled shot, which perforate soft iron well, would, we think, have broken up badly against this hard armor. We should have expected to see a ring of deep indentations round the broken point of the shot, something like those made by our 38-ton gun Palliser shot when fired against a steel-faced plate in the summer of 1880—see *The Engineer*, July 30, 1880. It will be seen that two hair cracks now showed themselves extending from the point of impact of the first round. The side frames were sprung wider open on the left, vide Fig. 7. The shot hole will be seen to be of considerably smaller diameter than the shot fragment which was held in it, the edge of the latter having turned over and flattened under the mass of langridge which followed it up, the target being dented and bruised in a circle of impressions beneath it. It may be remembered that a chilled projectile in 1876 behaved in a somewhat similar way here on a larger scale. The back of the target stood well; some small bolts were detached and frames cracked, but no plates were visibly injured.

Such a tremendous shock as this must inevitably perform a great deal of work on a plate. This plate may be regarded as disintegrated to a great extent, but it must be pronounced to have stood admirably. The pieces are all well held in their positions, and whatever might be the effect of a third round on the plate, it can scarcely be doubted that the shot would be kept out of a ship carrying such a plate, and the question may well be asked when a single plate would ever receive three such blows on service. Messrs. Schneider have shown also great judgment in employing a large number of bolts, for it is to be observed that these cracks appear in most cases to extend through the whole plate. What then would become of the portion below the second point of impact, if this entire plate had only six bolts?

It will be extremely interesting to compare the behavior of the steel-faced plates on receiving their heavy blows. Up to the moment at which this was written in Spezzia, the Schneider plate compares very well with its rivals. It must, however, be remembered that the thin cracks in a steel-faced plate generally extend no further than the steel face. A steel-faced plate may undulate, and crack its hard face in an immaterial way from a sort of wave motion. The surface of Brown's plate has gone slightly back on a large scale round the points struck, the crack A B looks like a wide concentric wave crack. It almost suggests the other extravagant simile of ice on water. At present concentric annular cracks, as well as radiating cracks, are found in the steel-faced plates, radiating cracks only in the steel.





(From the London Engineer, Dec. 1.)

NO. II.

THE carriage of the gun which had been constructed for the lighter charges at first contemplated and had fired about 200 rounds, many with the over charges, was now found to require a new bush to a recoil valve of the recoil press. This being attended to, firing was continued on Monday, November 20.

Round 5 of the series was fired with the same weight of charge and nature of projectile used against Schneider's plate in round 4, that is, a charge of 217 kg. (478 lb.), and a 2,000 lb. projectile of Gregorini chilled iron; initial velocity, 478 m.; striking velocity, 476.6 m. (1,564 ft.); stored-up work, 33,910; work per inch circumference, 613.0 foot tons; perforation of wrought iron 25.17 in. The projectile struck the bull's-eye, producing the effect shown in Fig. 12. The plate was split into six main fragments—five are shown in Fig. 13—which were all dislodged except No. 5, which remained supported by two bolts. There was one fragment which fitted on the back of No. 4 which is not seen here; it is shown in Fig. 12. The shot apparently had not penetrated to any great depth, but had broken the plate. Its head detached itself, *vide* Fig. 18; also the head of the previous round, *vide* Fig. 17. The wood backing in the centre was split and torn; the side frame pieces were thrown outwards at the bottom ends. At the back, beams 7 and 8 numbering from the top were badly broken and forced back, besides many bolts were dislodged. The plate bolts were snapped or drawn, with the exception of the two shown in Fig. 12 holding up piece 5.

Round 6 was fired with similar projectile and charge: Muzzle velocity, 479.4 m.; striking velocity, 477.0 m.; (1,565 ft.), giving stored-up work of 33,960 foot-tons; 613 foot-tons per inch circumference, and a perforation of wrought iron of 25.19 in. The effects are shown on Figs. 14, 15, and 16. The shot did not penetrate the plate, but bulged it, *vide* Fig. 16. It brought down the entire plate, however, snapping or drawing all bolts. In the back No. 6 beam from the top was broken and some others started and split.

The seventh round was fired on November 21 at Schneider's plate, against which it was decided to try the effect of a Whitworth forged steel projectile. The charge was 217 kg. (478 lb.), the projectile weighed 942.5 kg. (2078 lb.). The initial velocity was 471.4 m., the striking velocity 468.8 m. (1538 ft.), giving a total striking energy of 34,080 foot tons, or 615.1 foot tons per inch circumference, equal to the perforation of 25.23 in. of wrought iron. The gun was aimed at the upper right-hand portion of the plate and struck it, producing the following effects: The portion of the plate struck was broken up, some fragments being driven into the backing, *vide* Fig. 19, and part driven a little to the right, the right-hand frame being thrown aside and left hanging by its bolts nearly drawn. The top frame was thrown to the front, so as to hang over the face of the target. A part of the plate was brought down by the shot, which rebounded and lay in front, *vide* Fig. 19. This shot was set up as shown in Fig. 20, the extreme point being broken off. The original length of this shot was about 44 in.; it was set up to a length of 23 in. The impression of the head and point was left on a curiously shaped piece of steel shown in Figs. 21 and 22, which was purple and blue with heat, as were two other pieces of steel plate lying close to the shot, shown in Fig. 23. We notice these details particularly, because in the contact of steels of such excellent quality we need to note every indication of the enormous shock that must undoubtedly have been produced. The wood backing was rent and split, as seen from the front of the target. At the back the horizontal beams 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 from the top were seen to be broken and split; some of the upper tiers of beams were lifted with the top frame. The effects are roughly shown in the small sketch—Fig. 24—taken from the bank at one end of the target. One large plate bolt was driven far out. The entire broken portion of backing beams projected about 4 ft., and long splinters much farther. Since the firing we have been informed that this projectile was not a Whitworth, but one of Terre Noire manufacture sent over from San Vito by mistake. It certainly resembled Whitworth's very closely, having a point inserted, and behaving very differently from the competitive Terre Noire shot supplied to England.

It was thought that if the target props were looked to the effect of one more shot might be tried with advantage, and for this purpose a cast steel Italian projectile was selected. The same charge, 478 lb., was employed. The projectile weighed 952 kg., with gas check 963.5 kg. (2124 lb.). The striking velocity was 461 m. (1512 ft.). This gave a total striking energy of 33,670 foot tons and 607.7 foot tons per inch circumference, equivalent to the perforation of 25.08 in. of wrought iron. The gun was aimed at a bull's-eye made on the left top portion, but the shot did not strike as accurately as usual, a portion of the bull's-eye being visible after impact—*vide* Fig. 25. The shot thus struck the portion of plate close to the edge, driving it over as shown in Fig. 25, the shot burying itself in the backing. The natural effect of such a shot was to render the whole structure a wreck. On approaching the target there appeared to be a kind of broken palisading hiding the lower part of it, which consisted of the top frame, which was dislodged, and fell down in the position shown in Fig. 26. The condition of the backing, which was reduced to a complete wreck, is also shown here. Eventually the shot was extracted, and found to be broken. It had received a more severe blow than was probably supposed by most of those present. The posterior fragments appeared to be of inferior quality, but the fracture and appearance of the head was very good—*vide* Figs. 27, 28. This is due, no doubt, to the fact that this projectile had been tempered in oil as far as the head extends. Another shot point—Fig. 29—was found incidentally in front of the targets, but it is difficult to say exactly to which Gregorini projectile it belonged. We regard it as an unsatisfactory fragment,

because it is not a characteristic one, and implies in our judgment, a less good break up than is usual in these shots.

This last round concluded the series of plate experiments. We do not make a practice of recording the names of visitors, however distinguished. It may, however, be noticed that the experiments were conducted under the direction of Admiral Albini, the Director of Naval Ordnance; Admiral Raccchia, President of the Experimental Committee, with the assistance of that committee and Admiral Franklin Martin, the Superintendent of the Royal Arsenal, Spezzia. Representatives attended from foreign Powers, including England, especially the Admiralty. Elswick, Cammell's, Brown's, and Schneider's firms were also well represented.

We may add that experiments commenced with the 100 ton breech loading gun on November 21, on which it fired its first blank round. The firing and behavior of both gun and carriage is reported as most satisfactory. With a 661 lb. charge and a 2,005 lb. shot a velocity of 1,676 feet was obtained, and 39,050 foot tons energy, with only 13.5 tons pressure. With 776 lb. and 2,000 lb. shot the velocity was 1,834 feet, implying a total energy of 46,640 foot tons.

In our first report on Spezzia trials, the hair crack in Fig. 7, Schneider's plate, beneath the words "first shot," is an error. Also the equivalent weight of 149 kg. given as 320.85 lb., should be 328.5 lb. For more ready reference we give herewith a table of charges, velocities, etc., of the M. L. gun:

No. of round.	Charge, weight of.	Projectile, weight of.	Initial velocity, metres.	Striking velocity.		Stored-up work, foot-tons.	Work per inch circumference, foot-tons.	Equivalent perforation of wrought iron, inches.
				Metres.	Feet.			
1	149 kg. (328.5 lb.)	907 kg. (2,000 lb.)	377.5	371.5	1219	20,600	371.7	19.3
2	"	"	377.8	375.5	1232	21,050	379.8	19.5
3	"	"	374.8	372.8	1223	20,710	373.8	19.3
4	217 kg. (478.3 lb.)	"	476	474	1555	33,500	605.0	25.0
5	"	"	478	476.6	1564	33,910	613.0	25.2
6	"	"	470	477	1565	33,960	613.0	25.2
7	"	942.5 kg. (2078 lb.)	471.4	468.8	1538	34,080	615.1	25.2
8	"	963.5 kg. (2124 lb.)	461	461	1512	33,670	607.7	25.1

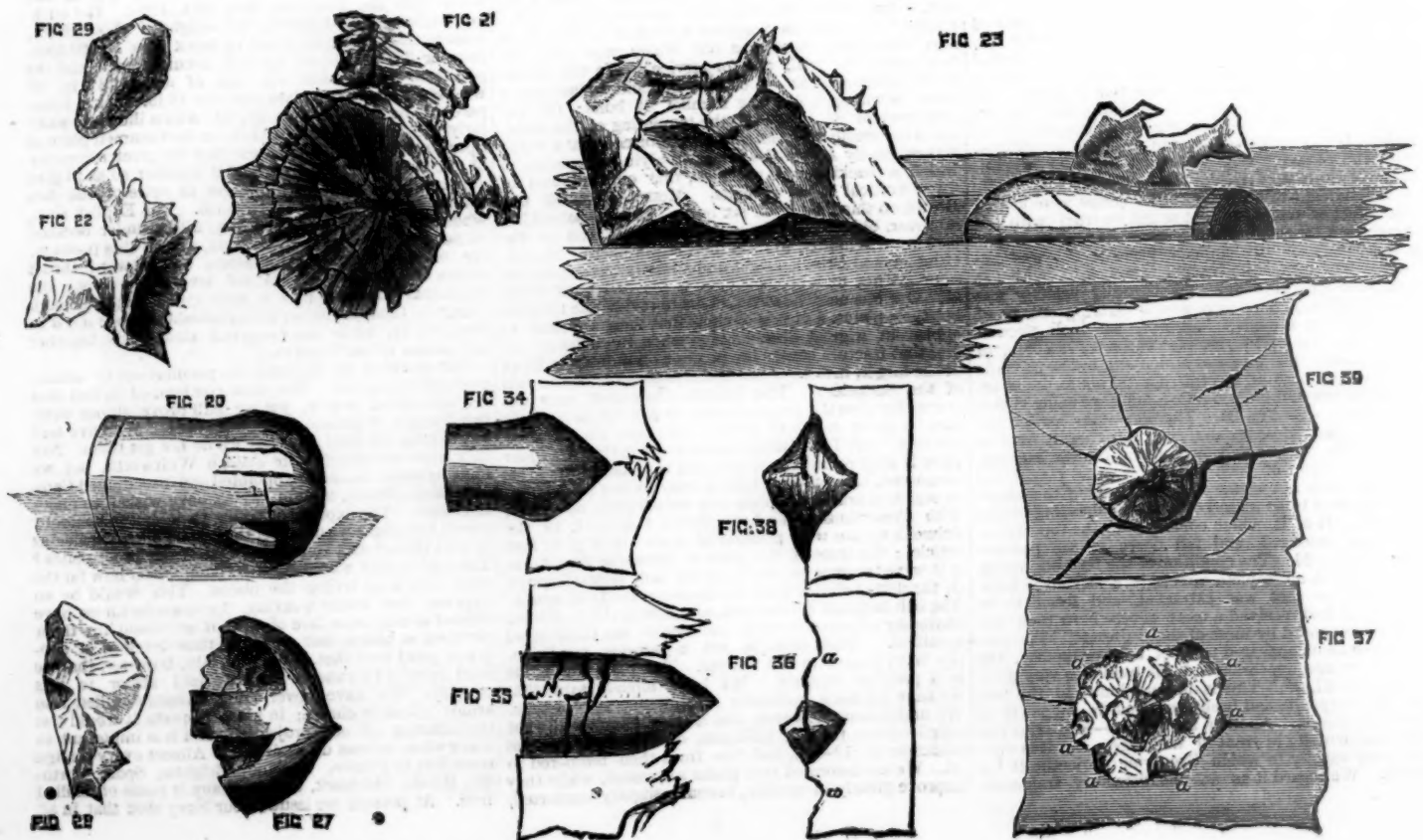
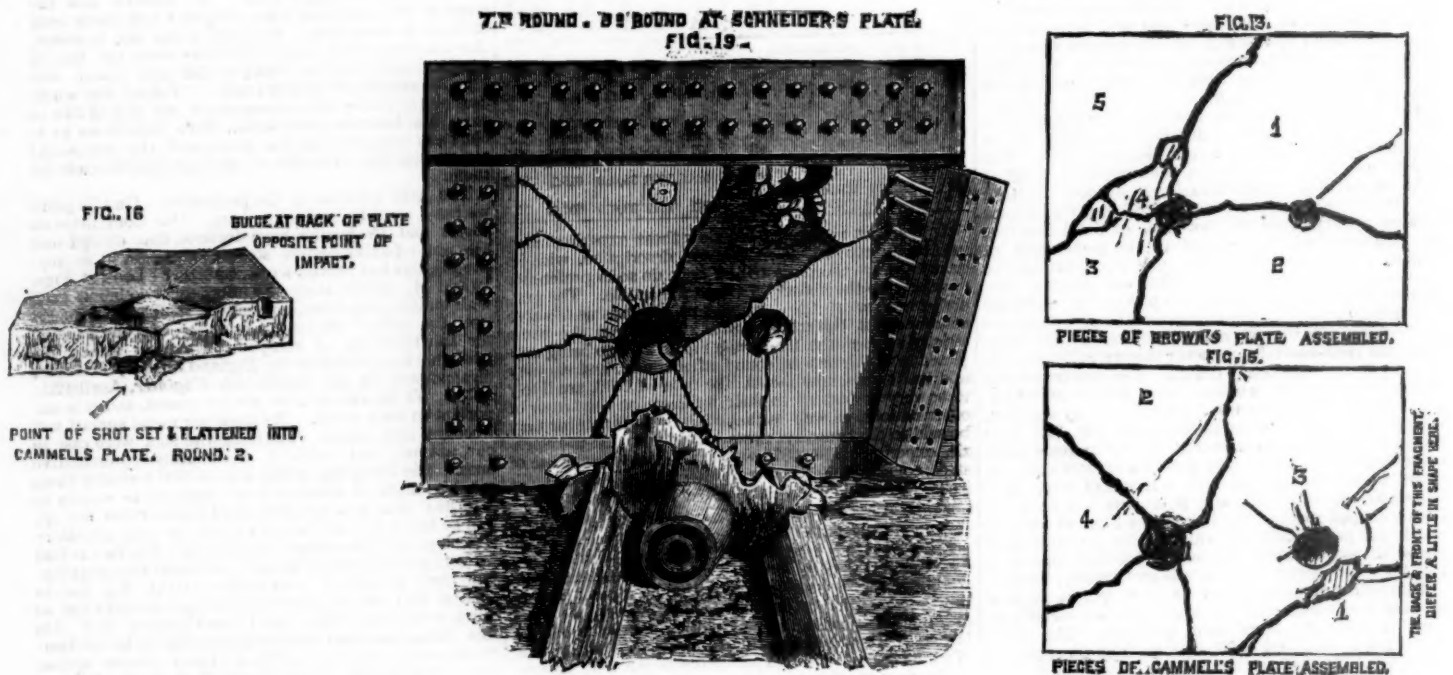
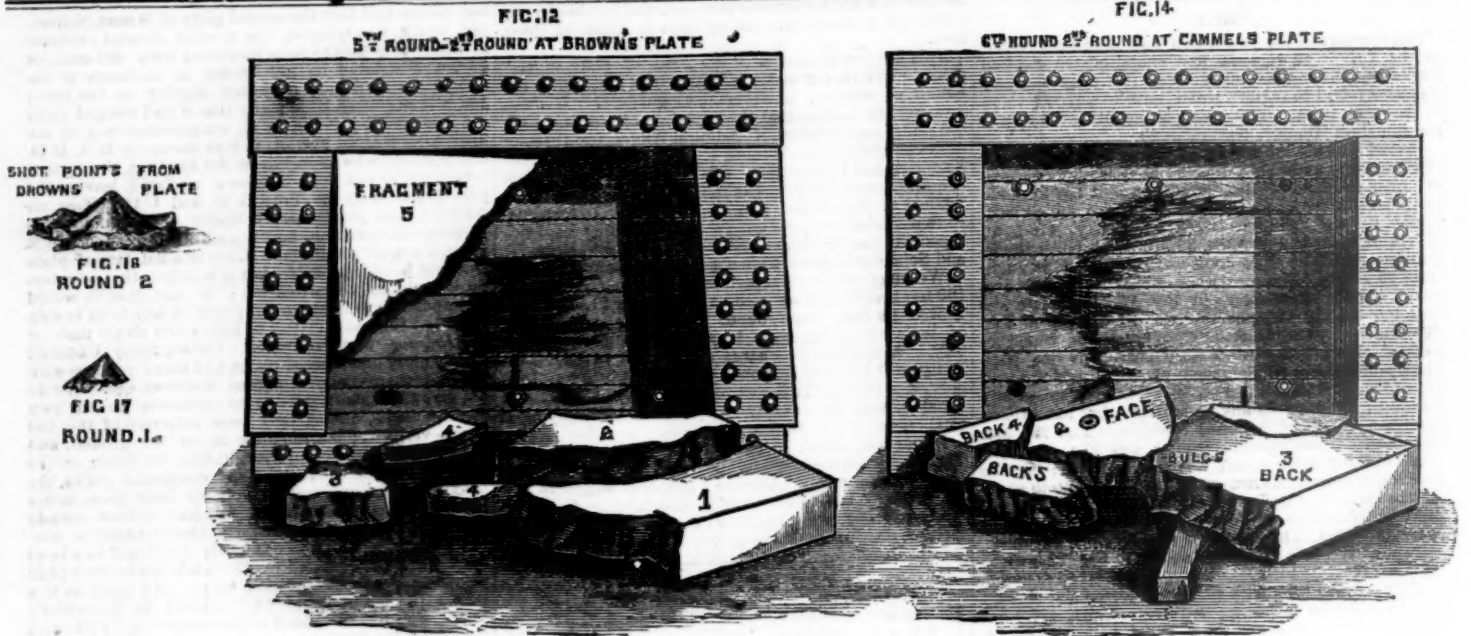
It is almost necessary to review these experiments in immediate context with the above description, with its drawings; we therefore will at once do so in preference to taking up the matter in a separate article. The general character of the experiments reminds us of those conducted at Spezzia in 1876. There was the same strictly comparative trial, each maker's plate being subjected to the same test, round after round, and we may add that these experiments, like those of 1876, are likely to be very important in their influence on the armor of other nations, as well as that of Italy. Whatever may be said to the contrary, there is no doubt that the Spezzia experiments of 1876 were the immediate cause of steel coming into our own armor instead of wrought iron. To consider the chief points in succession.

Plates.—Messrs. Schneider are to be congratulated on the wonderful plate they have brought forward on this occasion. After receiving 122,300 foot tons energy there remains a considerable portion of the plate and a considerable measure of protection on a great part of the target. Having said so much, however, we must examine the question very carefully, in order to make a fair comparison between the plates of different makers. We noticed before the experiments began that Messrs. Cammell and Brown wished to say that their plates were not sufficiently rolled, and specified by how much they considered the process incomplete. Apart from this, in our opinion, the trial was one in which a "prize fighter" was matched against a "sailor." That is to say, Schneider's plate was one which was made for this particular trial, not for service. We will notice three particulars in which the Schneider plate had a great advantage: (1) The number of bolts; (2) the arrangement of bolts; (3) the tempering of the plate. As to the number of bolts, we are informed that a paper was originally sent to the firms supplying the plates, in which a backing was specified, that only allowed of three vertical rows of bolts. Messrs. Cammell and Brown on this fixed their six bolts. Messrs. Schneider, however, objected to the paucity of bolts, and so the backing was altered to meet their requirement. Messrs. Cammell and Brown might undoubtedly have done the same. They may be considered to blame for not doing so. Our business, however, is not to review the makers, but their plates, and it is obvious that these are made to appear at a great disadvantage when the bolts are so few that fracture causes the pieces to fall down in front of the target, instead of being still held up as in the case of the Schneider. The Italian Committee may undoubtedly give the proper weight to this, but it is necessary to point it out to readers who are not in their position. (2) The distribution of bolts in the Schneider plate is very peculiar. A diagram was sent to the firms concerned, of which we have a copy in our possession, in which is drawn the plate and the points to be struck, with dimensions. We have shown the back of the Schneider plate with position of bolts (in Fig. 11 first article); the front of this plate is shown in Fig. 30 as if it were transparent, showing the bolt holes through it, the dotted circles being the spots marked to be struck. The bolt holes, it will be seen, are in irregular positions, obviously adjusted to meet the case of the three rows specified. This then is not a service condition. (3) With regard to the temper. The plate was made in a peculiar manner. We have already said that we have but little authentic information as to details. We understand, however, that it was hammered—not rolled—down from a thickness of 7 ft. to its present thickness of 18-9 in., and the front then tempered in oil. We are informed that plates so treated, while they improve greatly in quality, become slightly contorted,

and we are told that the second plate of Messrs. Schneider, which was lying on the ground, showed evidence of this. It is said to have measured only 462 mm., or 18-2 in., instead of its full 18-9 in. in thickness at the ends, and that it thus projected slightly in the face; and it is suggested confidently that it had warped from the true position shown in an exaggerated way by the lines A A, C C, in Fig. 31, to that shown by B B, D D, and that, in order to fit fair on flat backing, the portion between C C and D D has been removed, leaving the plate bounded by the fires B B and C C. This, no doubt, leaves the plate practically uninjured for this particular experiment, and beautifully tempered, but it is not a service condition. Even in a flat face of plate it would be objectionable, but it is urged that on a turret it could not be carried out; in fact, that it would be impossible to treat curved plates of any form in this way, and that, as a matter of fact, every single plate on the *Italia* is a curved one. Consequently Cammell must supply untempered plates, and these compare with highly-tempered ones at a great disadvantage. We do not give these statements as to thickness on our own measurements, having only been informed of this too late to verify it; but the plate is on the ground, and the statement admits of verification by those on the spot. As to the behavior of the compound plates, the fracture of the iron would probably have been better had there been more rolling. We have noticed already one peculiarity in them, namely, the existence of concentric cracks, which have already attributed to a bend back of the plate—*vide* Fig. 32—while Schneider's plate stands up and cracks radially only. We question if a concentric crack could be produced in Schneider's plate. Fig. 32 is intended to represent roughly Brown's plate after the first round, and Fig. 33 Schneider's after the first and second rounds. We noticed that the crack in the compound plate extended very likely only through the steel face. We must point out, however, that the plate on the next blow broke along the line of fracture marked by the crack of the first round—*vide* Fig. 13, and Fig. 6 of first report. Taking the whole case of the plates into consideration, we should like to see a trial between them again, when conditions as to bolts and tempering are the same, and the compound plates such that no excuse or apology is to be made for them.

The next question is the projectiles. On this point we have already said something. Our Committee on Plates and Projectiles have declared that chilled shot are not effective against steel-faced armor. Can anyone say this has proved so at Spezzia? Look at Figs. 12 and 14, which show the effect of two blows each with chilled projectiles, one only a match for wrought iron the same thickness as the plate, and one a match for this thickness of compound armor or steel. We tried this Gregorini iron in England in 1878, and were disappointed in the result—*vide Engineer*, April 12th, 1878. We believe we now see the reason, and it is important to trace it out. We tried our metal against soft wrought iron plates. The Gregorini shot were cast in our arsenal, and we think were hardly representative ones. The Pinspong, which a good deal resemble them—being made of charcoal iron—behaved as shown in Fig. 34; that is to say, they held together but set up, and so failed to penetrate as well as our own laboratory chilled projectiles—shown in Fig. 35. The fact is that for soft plates hardness is more important than tenacity. Our own projectiles were liable to break, but not in such a way as to interfere with their penetration so much as did the setting up of the Pinspong shot. On this we declared our chilled projectiles to be the best. Subsequently we found them almost useless against steel-faced armor. Figs. 36 and 37 show the effect of the chilled shot fired from the 33-ton gun against steel-faced armor on July 21st, 1880, already quoted last week—*vide the Engineer*, July 30th, 1880. The striking velocity was 1,504 ft., the weight of shot 828 lb., consequently the total stored-up work was 12,960 foot-tons, or 332.6 foot-tons per inch circumference, and the power of penetration was that of about 18-7 in. of wrought iron. The plate was but 18 in. thick. Compare this result with Figs. 33, 39, which illustrate similarly the effect of the first blow on the Cammell plate at Spezzia. Surely it is apparent that the greater tenacity of the Gregorini metal has held it together so as to give a more telling blow on the target in spite of the shot setting up into a misshapen form. The English shot, when resisted by a hard surface, flies asunder because its head is not buried in the plate, and in this position, for obvious mechanical reasons, an outward thrust comes on it which it has not tenacity to resist; the fragments then fly into a wide circle, with enough energy in them to make the unprofitable holes *a a a* in Figs. 36, 37, while the Gregorini shot holds together and makes no such marks.

Our position in England is peculiar as to armor-piercing projectiles. We have condemned chilled shot for steel-faced armor, yet we still prove all our steel-faced armor at present with chilled shot. We have sent out tenders for steel shot, but we do not get them. Not only have we offended Sir Joseph Whitworth, but we have by some means disappointed and discouraged Cammell and Brown, both of whom have wished to make steel shot. The expense of trying their shot is no doubt great: but might we not meet the case by allowing steels as well as chilled shot to be tried against our proof plates? The chilled shot would show by comparison how far the steel shots were trying the plates. This would be no expense, but rather a saving, for manufacturers have offered us steel shot free of cost, if we would fire them for them at plates, and we might thus develop a supply of good steel shot. We maintain, however, that we need more experiments against hard armor in this country. We have never tried Gruson's chilled iron armor. That is cheap; in many respects it would test the behavior of our projectiles, and it is important to know what we can do against it. Almost every foreign coast fort in France, Holland, Belgium, Spain, Portugal, Russia, Denmark, and Germany is made of chilled iron. At present we issue to our Navy shot that in all



probability are very little use against this class of shield. At Meppen, in 1879, Krupp erected a shield of soft iron to test in comparison with a chilled iron shield. Spectators were informed that chilled iron shot would be fired against them; but after a few rounds steel were substituted for them, doubtless because the chilled projectiles broke with little effect against the hard shield, while they cut into the soft one. Recently, in France, we hear that the effect of steel shot against chilled iron armor has been found to be so much greater than that of chilled projectiles, that this class of armor is to be discontinued for inland forts, for which it was thought to be suitable so long as the effect of chilled shot only had been known. We believe, however, that great improvement might be effected in our chilled shot. Palliser's new shot certainly did remarkably well on their first trial, and even shot simply made of iron of greater tenacity, as we have seen at Spezzia, are by no means despicable missiles against hard armor. Trial against hard armor is what we need.

This brings us to the last question, namely, that of the gun. Hard armor is destroyed, not by perforation, but by racking. There are almost figures enough here to settle that question—*cide* Fig. 19, the effect of a steel projectile, Figs. 12 and 14, the effect of chilled shot, and even Fig. 37. If there is no hole punched, there can be no diameter of a hole to consider. Hence a shot of small diameter has no advantage over one of large diameter. In fact, the injury must surely be proportional to the "stored up work," not to the "power of perforation." This seriously affects the question of size of gun. There has been an inclination to prefer guns of medium size or "moderate size," as it is thought, to "monsters." Our new 43-ton gun doubtless, owing to its length and power, does not compare badly in penetration with the 100-ton muzzle-loading gun fired at Spezzia in these experiments. Our 43-ton gun has achieved a velocity with its shot which argued a penetration of about 26-in. The 100-ton gun has only the same, with as high a velocity as 1,615 ft. This looks very encouraging, but the case is entirely changed when we contemplate steel-faced armor destroyed by racking in proportion to the striking energy of the shot, for while the 43-ton gun shot has only 23,320 foot tons energy, the 100-ton gun shot has, with this velocity 35,500 foot-tons energy; while the new breech-loading 100-ton gun shot, with 1834 ft. velocity, would have 46,640 foot-tons energy, or curiously enough, exactly double that of our 43-ton gun. Have we taken this into account? We question it. On the whole, then, we believe that these Spezzia trials should press upon us the need of experiments with hard armor such as will develop the shot required to deal with it, and also to bring us clearly to the proof of whether the effect of our fire is not for such armor, proportional to stored-up work or striking energy rather than penetrative power; whether, in fact, we are not following on lines which have ceased to be correct, and are positively misleading as to the power of our guns.

(From the Journal des Debats.)

THE TRIALS AT SPEZZIA.

IN our issue of Jan. 16, 1877, we published a report of a series of remarkable trials with armor plates, prosecuted at Spezzia by the Italian Naval authorities. We are now in receipt of interesting details regarding a fresh test of the same character, also conducted at Spezzia.

The Italian Navy, which in 1876 had prosecuted the initiative trials with such systems of armor as were then known, has just renewed its competitive experiments with new plates within the Polygon of Muggiano.

This time again the plates of Schneider have triumphed; and their victory is all the greater—as will be seen farther on—from the fact that they have been pitted against the compound plates for some years so highly extolled by the English Marine.

The trials have been prosecuted on three plates, one of Schneider and Co., and the others, of a compound character, manufactured at Sheffield, the one by Messrs. Cammell and Co., and the other by John Brown and Co., inventors of, as is well known, the system for which both have patents.

These plates were of a regular thickness of 48 centimetres, and in length and breadth respectively 3 m. 80 and 2 m. 63. Their weight each was about 32,000 kilos. The plates were supported by isolated backings all alike. The body of this backing was of oak, and the pitch pine props horizontally were firmly secured together and vertically strengthened by a ballast of old targets. The entire thickness of the oak backing was 1 m. 200. Each plate was fastened to its backing by its own special system of bolts, and besides was firmly enclosed by old plates secured to the structure by common bolts. The plates, fronting upon the sea, faced an Armstrong muzzle loading 100 pounder of 45 centimetres calibre, and mounted upon a hydraulic platform placed on a pontoon. The distance from the mouth of the gun to the target was about 90 metres. The projectiles employed, produced at San Vito, were of chilled steel from the foundry of Gregorini, and weighed, including gas-checks 908 kilogrammes. The powder was the progressive powder of the Fossano mills, having 4½ grains to the kilogramme.

By direction of the Minister the first shot was fired at each plate with the exact energy necessary to pierce an iron plate of 48 centimetre thickness. According to the formula of the Muggiano Commission this condition is equivalent to striking each plate with an energy of 48 metre tons, by the centimetre of the projectile's circumference, corresponding to a velocity at impact of about 372 metres.

At the first shot upon the Cammell and Brown plates the projectiles break up, and fragments remain in the indents; the penetrations are respectively 35 and 15 centimetres in depth, the plates presenting, however, a number of open fissures which affect their entire thick-

ness. The number of cracks in the Brown increases after the shock for some moments, thereby suggesting a very deep disturbance of the molecular equilibrium of the metal. At the same time some damage to the backing, which is forced back on its shoring, is reported. Some parts of the frame are also broken as well as some of the plate bolts.

The first shot upon the Schneider, on the contrary, had absolutely no effect in cracking the plate or deranging the backing, and the bolts were all in unchanged condition. The projectile was broken, and had but 21 centimetres depth of penetration.

These three shots, constituting the initial series of tests, are aimed toward the right lower corner of each plate, the impact being at the extremity of the base of a nearly equilateral triangle.

For the second class of tests the Commission, presided over by Admiral Albini, decides that a second shot shall be fired at each plate with a velocity equal to effecting a striking energy of 73.4 metre tons, by the centimetre of circumference, a degree of energy, according to the formula above cited, exactly sufficient to pierce an iron plate of 60 centimetres thickness—being an increase of one-quarter over the previously formulated energy. The velocity of this second series of tests may then be estimated at about 474 metres, or about 100 metres exceeding that of the first shots.

The Schneider plate is now first assaulted; the second shot strikes its lower face at 1 m. 23 from the first impact. The projectile is broken into numerous fragments, one remaining in the indent as previously, and the penetration not exceeding 30 centimetres. The face of the plate shows five or six unimportant fissures; the backing has not suffered, and the bolts are not started. This plate has thus withstood the shock in a very remarkable manner.

As a contrast to the above result, the English plates are thoroughly used up by the second shot. These are separated into five or six parts, projecting from the backing. A fragment of the Brown, weighing seven tons, remains held upon the target by a bent bolt. The backing of the Cammell is entirely laid bare. Both English targets are thus generally demoralized, and their damages to a ship would open it to the seaway. In the presence of this last result, the English plates no longer existing, the commission declares the trials concluded; without dissension it concedes the notable superiority of the Schneider over the compound armor, and agrees that, with very limited penetrations, the Schneider plate is much less cracked than its competitors.

The state of preservation of the Schneider plates having persuaded the commission to conduct some fresh tests, supplementary to the programme, two projectiles, one of Whitworth's compressed steel and one of Gregorini's cast steel, were fired at the plate with an initial velocity, developing an energy at impact equal to that of the second shots. The Whitworth projectile penetrated by 20 centimetres, and was "set up" in such a degree that its total length was contracted nearly 40 centimetres, the ogival form of point being changed to a spherical. The Gregorini projectile broke up, penetrating some 33 centimetres; its point was similarly "set up."

These supplementary tests confirm, in a still more impressive manner, the excellence of the Schneider armor. The exceptionally thorough experiments admit of no quibbling argument; the success of the Schneider plates is perfect, and justifies the reliance placed upon them by the French marine.

The Minister of the Italian Navy had invited to these trials a large number of officers—engineers and naval and military attaches of all nations. England was especially represented by prominent gentlemen: General of artillery Younghusband; Capt. Rice, naval attaché; Mr. Barnaby, chief constructor; and Mr. Rendel, lord of the admiralty.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

DESEMBER AT LARGE.—Your case, as represented, has been considered, but the Government will make no terms with you so long as you remain at large. Such is its invariable rule. Better surrender and take your chances. As you do not give your whereabouts, we cannot answer you by letter.

J. P. M. asks: If a man deserts from the British army, comes to the United States, enlists in the U. S. Army, serves 5 years, is discharged, and takes out his naturalization papers, and becomes a citizen, would he be liable to arrest for his desertion from the British army should he return to England? *Ans.*—Undoubtedly he would, and we have so stated heretofore more than once.

FRAT JUSTITIA asks: An enlisted man has absented himself from his post and company for two days, without leave, returns, is confined in the guard house for a short period, then returned to duty without trial. Now can his pay and allowances be legally stopped, for those two days of unauthorized absence, on the next muster and pay roll, under existing law, regulation, or orders, and can he be compelled to make good the two days lost as above stated? *Ans.*—Such a stoppage cannot legally be made unless under proper adjudication by Court-martial, and the soldier would have a right to protest at the pay table against the deduction from his pay. It might be done by the soldier's consent, to avoid trial, but not otherwise.

A SOLDIER asks: 1. When will the Army Department marksmanship gold medal, prescribed by G. O. 53, of 1882, for best shot in Department team, be ready for presentation? 2. Will the medals be forwarded to the winner or will they be sent to the Department Headquarters in which they were won and the winners sent there to receive them? *Ans.*—It has been announced by the Ordnance Department that the preparation of the dies for this new Department medal will probably require several months. The date of the issue of the medal is therefore indefinite. 2. The medals will doubtless be sent to Division and Department Headquarters, but whether winners will be sent there to receive them, or the medals transmitted to them at their posts, is as yet a matter of conjecture.

E. G. says: Please supplement your account of prospective vacancies in the line on account of retirements by a list of those who will fill them, giving States from whence they will be taken, etc. *Ans.*—As the vacancies are still prospective those who may fill them cannot now be told. As they will occur, if at all, in the higher grades, they will be filled by promotion of officers now in service. This will eventually leave vacancies in the grade of second lieutenant. Those will be filled by graduates of the Military Academy or by the promotion of non-commissioned officers. As it cannot be foretold who will graduate and who of the non-commissioned officers may be promoted, your question for the present will have perforce to remain unanswered.

THE MILITARY SERVICE INSTITUTION.

THE biennial meeting of the Institution took place on January 10 at its rooms on Governor's Island, Maj.-Gen. W. S. Hancock, U. S. A., in the chair. The annual report for 1882, submitted at this meeting, shows a satisfactory condition of affairs and a reasonable progress. The receipts during the year were \$2,851.46, expenditures \$2,481.07, leaving a balance Jan. 10 of \$335.53. Arrears have generally been paid up; current liabilities are promptly disposed of by the newly created finance committee; membership is increasing; several new life members have been added. There are now six honorary, twenty life, and 657 annual subscribers.

Reference is made to the interesting papers read and to be read before the institution and their publications in its Journal; to the gold medal for the prize essay for 1882, awarded to Col. H. M. Lazelle, U. S. A., and the theme for the prize essay of 1883, recently explained in full in the JOURNAL. Accessions to the library and museum have been numerous, and additional room has been provided. The report then adverts to the difficulty of founding a military library by voluntary contribution, and submits for consideration the raising of a special fund for that purpose. The executive council having recommended that the fee for life membership be increased from \$25 to \$50, and that all moneys received from that source be funded and invested as part of the capital of the institution, the proposed change will shortly be submitted to the consideration of each member.

The report was approved and filed for publication in the Institution Journal.

The stated election for new officers then took place with result as follows: President—Maj.-Gen. W. S. Hancock, U. S. A.; Vice-Presidents—Gens. G. W. Getty, S. V. Benét, Jas. B. Fry, T. L. Crittenden, and Wesley Merritt, U. S. A.; Secretary—Gen. T. F. Rodenbough, U. S. A.; Assistant Secretary—Capt. H. O. Perley, U. S. A.; Treasurer—Capt. Thos. Ward, 1st U. S. Artillery; Vice-Treasurer—Captain Warren C. Beach, 11th U. S. Infantry; Executive Council—Gen. H. L. Abbot, Col. T. G. Baylor, Capt. H. F. Brewerton, Major A. B. Gardner, Capt. E. S. Godfrey, Gen. R. H. Jackson, Col. J. H. Janeway, Col. G. N. Lieber, Col. H. G. Litchfield, Maj. G. W. McKee, Prof. P. S. Michie, Col. W. G. Mitchell, Gen. C. G. Sawtelle, Col. G. W. Wallace, and Gen. W. D. Whipple, U. S. A., and Gen. Webb.

The success of the institution seems now fully assured, and we trust that its aims and objects, wholly in the interest of the service, may not fail of accomplishment from any lack of zeal on the part of those looked to for a generous support.

THE FITZ JOHN PORTER CASE.

THE bill for the relief of Fitz John Porter passed the Senate on the 11th, by a vote of 33 to 27. Three Republican Senators, Mr. Cameron, of Pennsylvania; Mr. Sewell, of New Jersey, and Mr. Hoar, of Massachusetts, voted in the affirmative, the rest of the yeas being given by the Democratic Senators, and all the negative by the Republicans, with Mr. Davis, of Illinois, Independent. Mr. Sherman, Ohio, who has hitherto refrained from voting on the bill, again failed to respond to his name when the roll was called. Previously to the passage of the bill an amendment offered by Mr. Conger, that restoration should not entitle Porter to pay for the time he has been out of the Army, was agreed to by a *vote* vote. Mr. Conger also moved that the bill be indefinitely postponed, but after debate the motion was lost by a vote of 24 to 31. The bill, as subsequently passed, authorizes the President to nominate, and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to appoint Fitz John Porter, late a major general of the United States Volunteers and a brevet brigadier general and a colonel in the Army to the position of colonel in the Army of the United States of the same grade and rank held by him at the time of his dismissal, and in his discretion to place him on the retired list of the Army as of that grade, the retired list being thereby increased in number to that extent, provided that said Fitz John Porter shall receive no pay, compensation or allowance whatsoever prior to his appointment under this act.

During the debate Mr. Cameron spoke of his personal knowledge of General Porter's connection with the war in its early history, giving a few facts which came under his own observation, which he thought would go far to show that he, in the darkest moment of our great struggle, proved himself as patriotic as any man in the history of the nation. Mr. Cameron continued: "Fitz John Porter, in April, 1861, then a major on the staff of General Scott, was sent by the War Department to Harrisburg, Pa., to aid the State authorities in organizing and forwarding the troops of that State to the seat of war at Washington. He had not been in the State forty-eight hours before communication by mail and telegraph was cut off between the two cities, and he was left to act upon his own responsibility. He was equal to the emergency.

"It became my duty to take charge of the railroad from Harrisburg to Baltimore, and while so engaged an incident occurred in my office which impressed me greatly at the time, and which, it has always seemed to me, should atone to a great extent for any errors General Porter may have committed, if any, at a later period of the war. It was, to a great extent through him, in my judgment, that the services of General George H. Thomas were secured to the side of the Union.

Gen. Thomas, then Major Thomas, was stationed at Carlisle Barracks; there were at the same time other majors of the Army stationed at the same place, I have forgotten their names (but that is immaterial, for the records of the War Department will show), when an order was received from the War Department by a messenger who came across the country, directing Major Porter to send the troops then at Carlisle to Washington, with directions to have them cut their way through. It is the language of this order which makes me say that this was one of the darkest periods of the war. The capital of the nation was menaced by an enemy camping within a few miles of it, and had but a handful of men for its protection.

Porter, with a quick perception of the gravity of the situation, and showing a thorough knowledge of the fitness of the man for the duty to be performed, selected Thomas from the three majors, and ordered him to report to him at my office in Harrisburg, that being Porter's headquarters. Thomas arrived there promptly the same evening. When informed of the duty to be performed, Thomas hesitated, and then began a conversation between the two officers which continued until morning, and made a lasting impression on my mind. Thomas argued against the war, taking the ground that the trouble had been brought upon the country by the Abolitionists of the North, and that while deploring it as sincerely as any man could, the South had

just cause for complaint; Porter took the position that he, Thomas, as a soldier had no right to look at the cause of the trouble, but as an officer of the United States Army it was his duty to defend his flag whenever it was attacked, whether by foes from without or from within. Porter pleaded as zealously, as eloquently, as I have ever heard any man plead a cause in which his whole heart was engaged, and it was this pleading which caused Thomas to arrive at a decision.

I do not say that Thomas refused to obey his orders, but I do say that he hesitated, and would much have preferred that the duty had devolved upon another. Thomas was a Virginian, and had, as many other good and patriotic men, great doubts as to the advisability of the Government coercing the States back into the Union that had by their Legislatures formally withdrawn, but having that night decided to remain with the Union, from that time forward there was no doubt, no hesitancy, no wavering, but an earnest, hearty support to the side which had for its motto the maintenance of the Union, and to-day his name is among the brightest, best and purest of its military heroes. If Fitz John Porter was to any extent instrumental in saving this great name to our list of military heroes, I ask should not this country be grateful to him? I think it should.

As to Fitz John Porter's action at the second battle of Bull Run, for which he was tried, I confess my inability to judge. All military men differ, both sides, in my belief, being equally sincere in their convictions, and both sides being anxious to do Porter justice, and justice only, as they view his acts. I believe Fitz John Porter to have been a loyal soldier of the Union; and whatever mistakes he committed were of the head, and not of the heart; and therefore, in justice to him, I make this statement.

Mr. Mahone, Va., said he would vote against the motion to postpone indefinitely, because he thought General Porter ought to have a fair trial, but he would ask to be excused from voting on the main question, which he regarded as a question entirely between officers on the Union side in the late war.

Mr. Logan, Ill.—He referred bitterly to the strange influence that had grown up to help Porter, the turn which the advice of "certain men in military circles" had given to opinion, and the solicitous visits of men sent from far off cities to talk with Senators and induce them to support Porter's demand; and thus cloud the memory of Lincoln and Garfield and others who tried him. The letter from Gen. Longstreet, which contained an admission by Longstreet that he had been guilty of a disobedience of orders similar to those issued to Porter, was sharply criticised as a lame excuse, and Mr. Logan contended that Longstreet inadvertently bore testimony that if Porter had obeyed the orders of Pope his obedience would have brought about just the results anticipated by Pope. Mr. Logan scornfully deprecated the proposition to restore "this man" as being too much like restoring criminals because they are tired of being in prison and don't wish to be punished any longer.

Mr. Hoar, Mass., explaining his vote, said that he came to the capital early in the winter impressed by what Gen. Grant had recently said about Porter, and inclined to adopt the idea that Porter had only "innocently differed" in judgment from Gen. Pope. This Mr. Hoar stated in a speech in the Senate on Jan. 3, and he further said then that he did not regard the evidence in the case beyond the reach of ordinary understanding; that it did "not require a military expert to deal with that question," and that from the evidence cited and discussed by Mr. Sewell and Mr. Logan he did "not find Gen. Porter's conduct justified." Mr. Hoar at that time asked for delay, and the delay asked for was obtained. In the meantime, he said, he had become convinced that Porter had exercised a discretion commonly exercised by officers in the Army. He could not regard the restoration of Porter as a reflection upon the men who tried and found him guilty, but he leaned to the opinion that Porter had done wisely in failing to obey.

Mr. Logan replied by reading an order to show how Gen. Grant required orders to be obeyed. It is a fight at Corinth, in which Gen. Logan was engaged, Gen. Grant sent an order to General Hurlburt to move some of the troops in a given direction, telling him to go "clean through to Corinth." Gen. Hurlburt knew that to obey the order would be to expose his whole command to destruction. He telegraphed back to Gen. Grant his understanding of the order and his apprehensions as to the results of obedience. To this despatch the response was made: "I am glad you so accurately comprehend my orders—U. S. Grant." The order was obeyed.

LONGSTREET ON PORTER.

Gen. U. S. Grant, New York:

MY DEAR SIR: It occurs to me that an account of parallel circumstances passing in the Army of Northern Virginia, before and during the second Manassas, to those leading to the Fitz John Porter trial, may be a proper sequel to your recently published paper referring to his case.

It is but just, however, to admit that the argument of those who hold to the finding of the court-martial is, from their strictly military standpoint, conclusive. But they seem to ignore the well recognized custom of war that superior officers are not confined to the rule that holds an army as a grand machine, limited, under all circumstances, to the letter of the orders of its chief, but are expected and required to exercise due discretion when not in his immediate presence. No doubt cases have occurred in your experience where officers were as deserving of reproof for failing to exercise such discretion as for failing to obey orders.

Early on the 29th of August, 1862, at the head of my column, I arrived in striking distance of the battle in progress between part of the Army of the Potomac and Gen. Jackson's wing of the Army of Northern Virginia. Upon seeing the approach of our column the Federal troops were withdrawn to a defensive position, a little retired. Before noon, as testified by myself and others before the Schofield Board, my command was deployed and formed on Jackson's right, at right angles to the Warrenton pike, and extending to and beyond the Manassas Gap Railroad. As soon as deployed, Gen. Lee indicated his purpose to have me attack. Intending to execute his plan, I asked time to reconnoitre the new position and the ground intervening. After the reconnoissance, I reported the position strong and that the sacrifice was likely to be such as to cause apprehension of failure. He did not seem satisfied, and was considering the propriety of making his orders more definite when information was received from Gen. Stuart of the approach of Federal troops upon my right. This drew attention to that part of the field for the time, but when it appeared that this force was hardly strong enough for attack, the question of attack by the First Corps was resumed. As the day was far spent I suggested a force reconnoissance at nightfall, and preparations for the action of the day following. This was accepted. The reconnoissance, however, satisfied Gen. Lee and myself that the battle should not be made at this point. So I withdrew about midnight to the ground we had occupied before our advance. The next day the Federals renewed the battle against Jackson.

As we were not engaged, or seriously threatened, I rode out in advance of my line in search of opportunity to take

my share of the battle, and found a number of my officers collected at a point from which they had fair view of the masses welling up against Jackson. From this point it was evident that a few batteries, having enfilade fire, could disperse the attack, and some of our batteries were ordered forward for the position, and to prepare. Meanwhile a message came from Gen. Jackson asking for reinforcements, and almost immediately after came an order from Lee to send some of my brigades to Jackson. It did not seem probable that the troops could reach Jackson in time, if sent; at the same time there was no doubt of our dispersing the attack by the fire of our artillery. Under the circumstances I felt impelled to disregard the orders, and to operate on my own judgment. The fire of our batteries produced results anticipated. When the attacking forces were dispersed, my command was sprung to the charge and swept the field. Had I thus engaged the day before it is more than probable that Porter would have been in good season to take me on the wing, and would in all probability have crushed me. Had I stopped to reinforce on the second day, it is hardly probable that Jackson could have held till my troops could have reached him.

As you state, it was not possible for Porter to attack under the 4.30 order, the failure to do which was alleged to be his high crime. If we may suppose that he received the order at 4.50, and had attacked, he would have given us the opportunity that we were so earnestly seeking all of that day, and in the disjointed condition of their Army on that day, the result might have been more serious than that of the next day, the 30th.

Now if we suppose that my attack on the afternoon of the 30th had failed, we shall see that the evidence against me would have been stronger than that against Porter. Yet, with an earnest desire to meet the orders of my chief, I felt that it would be more culpable to execute than to disobey them. As we were successful, there was no room to question as to the only safe rule to guide the judgment in such cases. If in the exercise of discretion one becomes the direct cause of failure, he should only be adjudged as failing in generalship. If the intention is to bring discomfiture upon the arms it is criminal.

Soon after this campaign I was promoted, and assigned as senior lieutenant general of the Confederate Army.

With highest respect, your most obedient servant,
JAMES LONGSTREET.

ATLANTA, Dec. 30.

U. S. VESSELS INJURED IN 1882.

The communication of the Secretary of the Navy in response to the resolution of the House requesting a report "whether, during the year 1882, any vessels of the United States have been lost or materially damaged at sea, or have been run aground in port or elsewhere," stated that no vessel had been lost during the year, and gave the following facts:

Damaged Otherwise than by Collision During the Year 1882.

On the 14th of February, 1883, the Shenandoah, while at sea on her return to the United States from the South Atlantic station was damaged by a fire which occurred on board that vessel, between the woodwork and the boilers, charring the timbers in the bottom of the ship, under the boiler beds. The fire was promptly extinguished, and measures taken to prevent a recurrence of the accident.

On the 19th of October, 1882, the Essex, at Callao, Peru, was partially disabled by the breaking of a crank pin.

The Ranger has been reported to the department by telegram received December 20, 1882, from Acapulco, Mexico, as disabled by derangement of machinery—no particulars given.

Collided with other Vessels during the year 1882.

On the 23d day of Feb., 1882, the Fortune, employed as a tug at the Navy-yard, Norfolk, Va., collided with the sloop G. E. Merceran, in the vicinity of that yard, causing damages to the sloop and her cargo to the amount of \$875.66. This amount was paid by the department to the owner of the sloop, it having been ascertained upon investigation that the Fortune was alone responsible for the collision.

On the 14th of March, 1882, the Tallapoosa collided with the fishing schooner Willie Edix, near Boston, Mass. Upon investigation by a board of officers it was ascertained that the schooner was damaged to the amount of \$325, and that the Tallapoosa was responsible for the collision. The repairs were made at the Navy-yard, Boston, to the satisfaction of the owner of the schooner.

A collision occurred on the 1st of April, 1882, between the tugs Standish and Mayflower, in the harbor of Annapolis, Md. The vessels were not materially damaged. Such injuries as they sustained were repaired by the force employed at the Naval Academy.

On the 8th of April, 1882 the Alert collided with a Japanese junk near the coast of Japan. The Alert being responsible for the collision, the amount of damage sustained by the owners of the junk, one hundred dollars, was paid by order of the commanding officer of the Asiatic station.

On the 18th of April, 1882, the Japanese imperial yacht Jingei Kan ran into the United States steamer Alert, then near Kobe, Japan, and damaged her to such an extent as to necessitate her return to port for repairs. The yacht having been wholly to blame for the collision, the injuries sustained by the Alert were repaired at Kobe at the expense of the Japanese Government.

The Brooklyn, while at anchor off Montevideo, Uruguay, on the 1st of May, 1882, was seriously damaged by the English steamer Mozart, which vessel, in passing out of the harbor, ran into the Brooklyn. After making temporary repairs at Montevideo, the Brooklyn was sent to Rio de Janeiro, and thoroughly repaired at that place. The commanding officer on the South Atlantic station has been instructed to present to the owners of the Mozart an account of the entire expense of repairing the injuries sustained by the Brooklyn in the collision, estimated at \$30,000, which expense the owners of the Mozart have expressed an intention to pay.

On the 10th of May, 1882, a collision occurred between the Menocacy and a Japanese junk, near Nagasaki, Japan, resulting in slight injuries to the Menocacy and in the loss of the junk and her cargo. It appears from the reports in this case that the collision was due to mismanagement on the part of the men in charge of the junk.

The Vandalia, on the 26th of May, 1882, in a collision at sea with the merchant schooner Abbie Dunn, lost her whale boat and some small articles connected with it. The reports in this case show that the responsibility for the collision rests with the men in charge of the schooner.

On the 7th of June, 1882, the Hartford, while lying at one of the wharves of the Navy-yard, Boston, Mass., was run into and slightly damaged by the English steamer Virginian. The injuries sustained by the Hartford were repaired at the expense of the owners of the Virginian, that vessel being responsible for the collision.

On the 1st of Aug., 1882, the Dale, a sailing vessel, while passing the entrance of East River, in the harbor of New

York, drifted into the merchant ship Cornelius Grinnell, then lying at anchor in that vicinity, causing damages to the Grinnell to the amount of \$2,324.69, which sum has been paid by the department to the owners of that ship, an investigation having shown that the Dale was responsible for that collision.

On the 15th of Sept., 1882, the Tallapoosa, then making passage from the Navy-yard at Portsmouth, N. H., to Boston, collided with the schooner B. D. Haskins. The Tallapoosa being responsible for the collision, the amount (\$86.80) expended by the owners of the schooner in repairing the injuries sustained by that vessel will be paid by the department.

The monitor Nantucket, while at anchor off 24th street, New York, Oct. 27, 1882, was run into and slightly damaged by the merchant steamer Alene, of the Atlas line. The reports in this case show that the responsibility for the collision rests with the persons in charge of the Alene.

On the 1st of Nov., 1882, the Ashuelot, while steaming out of the harbor of Yokohama, Japan, fouled a buoy to which the Japanese light-house tender Meiji Maru was moored, and drifted against that vessel. In this collision two of the Ashuelot's boats were materially damaged.

On the 4th of Dec., 1882, the Fortune, while steaming from Hampton Roads towards the Navy-yard, Norfolk, Va., collided with the merchant steamer Excelsior. A court of inquiry has been convened for the purpose of inquiring into and reporting upon all the circumstances attending this collision.

Run aground, in port or elsewhere, during the year 1882.

The Tennessee, while on her way up the Mississippi River, March 11, 1882, grounded near New Orleans, La. No injury sustained.

On the 27th of April, 1882, the Alarm, having her steering gear disabled while making the passage between Washington and Hampton Roads, Va., and being in tow of a tug-boat, grounded off Matavoa Bay, Rotomac River. No injury sustained by grounding.

July 4, 1882, the Powhatan grounded near the Florida Reefs. No injury sustained.

On the 17th of July, 1882, the Alarm grounded in the Potomac River, near Piney Point, Md. but was floated off in about two hours, sustaining no injury.

The Tennessee grounded near Nash Rocks, in the harbor of Boston, August 2, 1882, but sustained no injury.

Sept. 1, 1882, the De-patch grounded at night, on the north end of Rose Island, Narragansett Bay, R. I., and on the following day, with the assistance of a tug-boat, she was hauled off. No damage sustained.

Oct. 4, 1882, the Jamestown grounded on Willoughby's Bank, Hampton Roads, Va. She was floated off in about three hours, having sustained no injury.

On the 9th of Nov., 1882, the Seaweed, a tug-boat, sank at her moorings in Ballast Creek, Port Royal, S. C. She was raised by the crew of the Pawnee, and was not materially damaged.

Nov. 15, 1882, the Juniata grounded on Dry Roman Shoal, in the harbor of New York, sustaining no injury.

Dec. 1, 1882, the Nipic grounded while entering the port of Lisbon, Portugal. She was hauled off with the assistance of a tug-boat, and is reported as having sustained no material damage. The vessel has, however, been docked at that port for a thorough examination.

NAVY BUREAU REPORTS.

Report of the Chief of the Bureau of Navigation.

BUREAU OF NAVIGATION, NAVY DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, November 15, 1882.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the Bureau of Navigation for the past year, together with the estimates for its support, and for the expenditures that will probably be required in that division of the Naval service committed to its immediate charge for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1884.

Included in this report, and transmitted herewith, are the reports and estimates of the several offices under its cognizance, and an abstract of offers for supplies received.

NAVIGATION.

The American Practical Navigator, the revision of which was commenced in November, 1878, has been satisfactorily completed, and is ready for issue. A new edition of the Useful Tables has also been prepared, and is now in the hands of the printer.

Compasses.—To keep the large number of compasses in serviceable condition frequent repairs are necessary. In the absence of suitable facilities for making the required tests of the instruments at the Naval Observatory, they are tested at the observatory connected with the establishment of the manufacturer at Brookline, Mass., which involves the expense and inconvenience of sending the superintendent of compasses to that place whenever compasses are repaired or purchased.

At present it is only practicable for this office to examine the compasses for sensibility, directive force, and centring; but, to insure reliable compasses, the pivot and the swivel of the cap should be examined to detect roughness, flaws, or cracks; the liquid should be tested to insure the proper amount of alcohol; the float should be subjected to heat, and experiments should be made upon the sixty or more needles which compose the two bundles for each compass card.

Every compass should be examined before being issued to a ship going into commission, and again upon the return of a ship from a cruise, in order to determine the effect produced upon it by change of locality.

The compasses of iron and steel ships lose their directive force in a comparatively short time, and the errors, due to the effect of the material of construction, constantly vary. There is now no means of inquiring into the causes of errors in compasses with a view to providing a remedy therefor, and to insure reliable instruments being supplied to our vessels.

During the past year I have caused the inquiry into the subject of magnetism of ships to be continued. The magnetic history of every vessel hereafter built for the Navy is to be carefully recorded from a series of observations which will begin with her construction.

In order to aid the scientific study which is now made of the construction of the marine compass, the necessary tests and compensation, its errors and surroundings on shipboard, and the effect of geographical change, there is need of a suitable building in a location

free from magnetic masses and away from causes which produce vibration, and I have therefore submitted an estimate for erecting such a building.

Determination of Longitudes.—The expedition under Lieut. Commander F. M. Green, for the telegraphic determination of longitudes in the China and Japan Seas, referred to in my last report, has returned to the United States, having completed the necessary observations, and the officers who composed the expedition are now engaged in the computation of their work.

During the year 1881 and the first part of 1882 eleven stations were occupied, extending from Vladivostok in Siberia to Madras in British India, and exact latitude and longitude determinations were made of Yokohama, Nagasaki, Shanghai, Amoy, Hong Kong, Manila, Saigon, Singapore, and Batavia.

The results of this important work will be published early in the coming year, and will afford the means of correcting and confirming the positions of about 3,000 points in Eastern waters.

In the further prosecution of this important work it is proposed to carry a chain of longitudes from Galveston, Texas, over the newly completed lines of the Central and South American Telegraph Company to Vera Cruz; thence to Coatzacoalcas and across the isthmus of Tehuantepec to Salinas Cruz; thence south to Panama, Payta, Callao, and Valparaiso, thus confirming and correcting all the chronometric determinations previously made on the west coast of South America and in the eastern part of the South Pacific ocean.

This will fully complete the measurement of differences of longitude over existing ocean cable lines, and with a short measurement across the Andes, from Santiago to Cordoba, will complete the enormous polygon whose sides are Washington-Greenwich, Greenwich-Lisbon, Lisbon-Madeira, Madeira-Porto Grande, Porto Grande-Pernambuco, Pernambuco-Bahia, Bahia-Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro-Buenos Ayres, Buenos Ayres-Cordoba, Cordoba-Santiago, Santiago-Valparaiso, Valparaiso-Callao, Callao-Payta, Payta-Panama, Panama-Salinas Cruz; Salinas Cruz-Coatzacoalcas, Coatzacoalcas-Vera Cruz; Vera Cruz-Galveston, Galveston-Washington.

The work on the coast of Central and South America can be accomplished in two seasons, taking the spring months for Central America, and the following winter for work south of Panama.

The Department library is at present totally inadequate to the needs of the various offices in the Department. It consists of about 7,000 volumes of little value in large part, the relics of old ships' libraries which have been turned in as no longer suitable for distribution. The want of an adequate library of modern books of reference is a serious obstacle in carrying on the work of the Department, and there is urgent need of an appropriation to supply the deficiency.

I would further recommend that the restrictions now imposed upon the binding of books for the library of the Department be removed, and that the library be placed, in this respect, upon the same footing as the library of the Department of State, for which provision was made in the act approved February 28, 1879 (Forty-fifth Congress, third session, chapter 106).

An officer of intelligence, now generally recognized as necessary to the effectiveness of an army or navy, and established by a general order, has been organized for the purpose of systematizing the collection and classification of information for the use of the Department, in relation to the strength and resources of foreign navies.

Navigation Supplies.—The revised allowance list of stores supplied to naval vessels, under cognizance of this bureau, has been printed and issued.

By direction of this bureau, the speed indicator invented by Ensign W. J. Hogg, U. S. N., was tried on board the U. S. ship *Jamestown* during her passage from San Francisco to Newport, with most satisfactory results, and its adoption in the Navy, has been recommended by a board of officers.

A number of new books have been added to the libraries of ships, and journals and papers upon professional subjects are now furnished them in such quantities as the limited appropriation admits.

Preliminary steps have been taken to fit a naval vessel with the incandescent system of electric lighting, during the present fiscal year.

Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea.—I beg leave to renew the suggestion made in my former report, that Congress be requested to remedy the evil now existing by reason of the difference between the laws of the United States in reference to preventing collisions at sea, and the Revised International Regulations, which have been adopted by all other maritime nations.

Serious losses, both of life and property, may and probably will occur, unless measures are speedily taken to obviate the confusion which now exists, owing to conflicting regulations.

In connection with this object, I desire to invite your attention to the importance of a modification (for the inland waters of the United States) of Rules 17 and 20, for preventing collisions on water, chapter 5, page 818, Revised Statutes of the United States, second edition, 1878.

Rule 20 requires steam vessels under all circumstances to keep out of the way of vessels propelled by sails; and is so interpreted by the courts.

In practice, this rule gives a sailing vessel of the smallest size, drawing but little water, the right to hold her course in the narrow channel of a bay or river, which has been deepened at great expense by the General Government in order to facilitate commerce in heavy ships, and requires a steamer of the largest size and heaviest draught of water to keep out of the way. In other words, although the bay or river may be miles wide, and navigable in all parts for the small vessel, and with a channel of but 100 yards in width capable of floating the steamer, the latter is required by law to avoid the former. This is often impracticable, and the observance of the rule may frequently result in the grounding

and perhaps destruction of the steamer, with a loss of many thousands of dollars to the owners or underwriters.

Rule 17 is of the same character, and requires sailing vessels which have the wind free to keep out of the way of vessels sailing close hauled; or compels large ships of deep draught, restricted by their draught to a narrow channel, to avoid, when the wind is free, small vessels bound in an opposite direction, even though the latter may have miles of space in which to manoeuvre.

While the wisdom of requiring vessels under steam to avoid sailing vessels on the high seas cannot be denied, I respectfully suggest such modifications of Rules 17 and 20 as will insure to the deep draught ships the right of way in narrow deep channels, either natural or artificial, in localities where light draught vessels will not be liable to injury by using the shoaler water.

SIGNAL OFFICE.

Extended trials have demonstrated the superiority of the system of night signals invented by Lieutenant E. W. Very, U. S. N. It has been adopted for use, and Coston lights are no longer supplied to ships.

The system of taking simultaneous meteorological observations on board of all naval vessels has been continued during the past year.

HYDROGRAPHY.

A complete survey has been made of the Bay of Samana, Santa Domingo, by Commander Bridgman and the officers of the U. S. S. *Despatch*, and the survey of the west coast of Mexico by Commander Philip and the officers of the U. S. S. *Ranger*, has been continued and is nearly completed.

A running survey of Wrangel Island was made by Lieutenant Berry and the officers of the U. S. S. *Rodgers*.

Important information in regard to the coasts and waters of Iceland was obtained by Commander Wadleigh in the U. S. S. *Alliance*, while cruising in search of tidings of the U. S. S. *Jeannette*.

The group of islands discovered by Lieutenant Commander DeLong, in the *Jeannette*, has been entered upon the charts of the Hydrographic Office as DeLong Islands in memory of that gallant officer.

New charts have been issued and others are in the process of preparation by engraving, photolithography, and heliography.

Pilot charts for the different oceans are being published as rapidly as the appropriations will allow. One for the Northern Pacific was completed three years ago. Since that time the arrangement of the chart has been improved, and in future the charts will be prepared on the graphic plan.

Charts of the North and South Atlantic Oceans are now in course of preparation and will shortly be ready for publication. The data are computed for each square of five degrees and for each month of the year, and the charts will give the prevailing conditions for each square, as to rain and fog, the direction and force of the wind, the range of barometer, and the mean temperature of the air and water.

Additional sailing directions, notices to mariners, and corrected light and buoy lists have been published.

I have the honor to call your attention to the detailed report of the hydrographer, and to state that it is most desirable that the appropriation asked for may be granted, in order that information which the Hydrographic Office now possesses may be published for the use of the Navy and merchant marine.

NAVAL OBSERVATORY.

The report of the Superintendent of the Naval Observatory, hereto appended, gives the observations made during the past year of planets, satellites, stars, and comets, specifying the work performed with the several instruments. It treats of the work done in the meteorological and chronometer departments; of the daily transmission of time signals, and of the publications and computations made.

A system of testing and regulating navigation and meteorological instruments used in the Navy has been established at the Observatory.

The present Observatory buildings are in very defective condition, and although only the most necessary repairs are made, a considerable portion of the annual appropriations is now expended in keeping them in a working condition, and in protecting the valuable instruments against injury.

The unsuitableness of the present location of the Observatory (so often mentioned in previous annual and special reports), by reason of fogs and vapors in the immediate vicinity of the Potomac River, has again been demonstrated by the difficulty attending observations during the past year.

Transit of Venus.—The preparations for observing the coming transit of Venus have occupied the attention of the Transit of Venus Commission, of which the Superintendent of the Naval Observatory is the chairman.

The method selected for the observation will be similar to that used in 1874, viz., by photography. A party will occupy each of the following stations: Cape of Good Hope; Santa Cruz, Patagonia; Santiago de Chili; New Zealand; San Antonio, Texas; Cedar Keys, Fla.; Fort Selden, N. Mex.; and Washington, D. C.

NAUTICAL ALMANAC OFFICE.

The Nautical Almanac and large Ephemeris for the year 1885 have been issued. A supplement to the volumes 1881-84, intended for the use of field observers engaged in the public surveys has been prepared, comprising the ephemerides of the apparent right ascensions of one hundred and seventy-five stars, in addition to those already given in the regular list of the Ephemeris, and is now in press. A portion of the Almanac and Ephemeris for 1886 is in type; the computations for 1887 are in progress, and those for 1888 have been begun. The increased force at the disposal of the Superintendent has enabled him to hasten the work of inves-

tigating the planetary motions obtained from the most modern data.

Experiments for determining the velocity of light have been continued, and they are now regarded as completed.

I have the honor to call your attention to the fact that there appear to be indications of a growing tendency on the part of another branch of the executive to encroach upon work which has fallen for many years within the legitimate province of offices under the supervision of this Bureau.

The local time has been signalled from the Naval Observatory since the year 1845; and since 1877 a time-ball has been dropped at New York City, daily at noon, by signal from the Observatory.

A bill (H. R. 5009) is now pending in Congress, which has in view a useful extension of the system. The Signal Service of the Army, however, appears to be attempting to connect itself with the time service, with which its specific work has no relation whatever. It has accordingly published, at the Government's expense, a work on the construction and maintenance of time-balls, and the Chief Signal Officer has recently announced, in an official publication, entitled "Memoranda of Useful Information for Shipmasters," that "arrangements are now in progress for the erection of a second time-ball in New York City, which will be established upon the building of the Equitable Life Assurance Company of that city."

It is not apparent whether the work referred to is to be carried on in part by the Signal Service; but the official announcement made and published by the Chief Signal Officer, coupled with the fact that the designated building is a station of the Signal Service, would seem to warrant such an inference.

The late Superintendent of the Naval Observatory, Rear Admiral John Rodgers, in a letter to the Navy Department dated Jan. 27, 1882, gave the following opinion:

The Signal Bureau seeks apparently to give time signals to the United States. This is a self imposed task and pecuniary burden. The Signal Bureau has not, necessarily, astronomers, nor telescopes, nor the means of controlling clocks by astronomical observations. Time signals may be intended as the first step to all these. They would follow; and it is better to object now than when the appropriations are frittered in useless expenditures of similar work.

The operations of the Signal Service have been further extended by the organization of a "marine division" in the office of the Chief Signal Officer, and by the establishment of a "marine agency" in the city of New York.

Charts of the North Atlantic Ocean are issued containing information as to the direction of cyclones, the limits of icebergs during different months of the year, and the direction of the prevailing winds in the different ocean squares.

The latter work, begun by Lieut. Maury of the Navy, has been continued and extended by the Hydrographic Office connected with this Bureau; and the question arises whether it could have been intended by the legislature that appropriations which, however liberal in their amount and vague in their limitations, were made to carry on the meteorological service, should be diverted from their general object and applied to work which is specifically in the charge of another department.

The issue of maps or charts of the ocean and the dissemination of information for navigators has long been one of the duties of this Bureau, and of the officers under its direction, and, while paying the highest tribute to the usefulness of the Signal Service of the Army in its proper sphere, I deem it my duty to call attention to what appears to be an unwarranted extension of its operations in this direction.

In this connection I would refer to a proviso appended to the appropriation for the work of the Signal Service in the act approved August 7, 1882, known as the sundry civil appropriation act, as follows:

Provided, That the work of no other department, bureau, or commission, authorized by law, shall be done by this bureau; Provided further, That nothing herein contained shall restrict the performance of all duties of the Signal Bureau prescribed by existing law.

Respectfully submitted,

J. G. WALKER, Chief of Bureau.

Hon. W. E. CHANDLER, Secretary of the Navy.

"The Swell of the Ocean" (Sir Beauchamp Seymour), now made a peer, will, it is said, certainly marry Mrs. Gerard Leigh, the wealthy widow who entertains in such grand style at Luton Hoo and owns a famous yacht. Mrs. Leigh is said to have £60,000 sterling a year.

CONCERNING matters in Uruguay, Mr. Monson, the British Chargé d'Affaires at Montevideo, is reported as saying: "The army, small though it looks, is far too large for the necessities of the little State, and whose chief occupation is to make good government impossible. At any moment the whole administrative machinery is liable to be stopped by the high-handed proceedings of those who rule this army, and the consequence is that taxes are increased to keep it up, while ever and anon irregular levies are made upon the proprietors of the cattle ranges throughout the country. If the government troops steal first, the owner gets a bond which is ultimately added to the 'amortisable debt,' not more than 20 per cent. of which will ever be paid, whereas, if the 'rebel' gets first at the flocks, he receives no payment at all. In short, lawlessness marauding in the forms of law, waste, greed, and incompetence are all to be found on this side of the picture."

CERTAIN English papers having prophesied that after the meeting of 1883 the English National Rifle Association will have to seek other ground than Wimbledon, the *Volunteer Service Gazette* has made inquiries on the subject and find that though some of the inhabitants of Wimbledon and Putney regard the annual meeting on the Common as a nuisance, there is not any immediate prospect that the Association will be driven off. "The Tenors of Wimbledon Common as a shooting ground is unquestionably precarious," it concludes, "but threatened men live long, and there is certainly no ground for fixing 1883, or any other date, as the last year in which the 'Wimbledon Meeting' will take place."

FOREIGN NOTES.

The *Photographic News* proposes to attach a small—say half-pound—camera (provided with funnel to exclude surplus light) to a big kite, and thus obtain bird's eye photos of country for military purposes. "With proper handling and in right weather a kite could be kept quite steady; there would be none of the gyratory motion which is the chief impediment to photographing from a balloon; and the angle of elevation of the kite need not be so great as to distort the objects reproduced beyond recognition of unpractised eyes."

The Intelligence Department at the British Admiralty is to be remodelled. "In the year 1875," explains the *Broad Arrow*, "an official of the Constructive Department was appointed to collect, arrange, and index all the facts relating to the ships of other Powers which were obtained and reported by the Naval Attaches to our different embassies; also by captains of ships of war stationed abroad. Prior to that time all information of the kind was reported direct to the Foreign Office, which sent to the Admiralty whatever was considered of importance. Upon reaching Whitehall, the particulars in question were read by a clerk and then put away, without, in many instances, the Constructors becoming aware of the existence of such documents. By the above-named system, the papers came into the hands of a naval architect who was able to accurately appraise their value, and succinctly note down the facts they contained for the information of the Council of Construction. This being done the papers were arranged, classified, and indexed for subsequent reference if required. In this way the Council of Construction at the Admiralty have ever since been continually kept acquainted with as much information respecting the ships building for foreign navies as their respective Governments have permitted to be revealed. During all this time, however, the data on these subjects have continued to reach the Admiralty through the Foreign or War Offices. A committee is now appointed, presided over by Capt. N. H. Hall, R. N., for the purpose of collecting all such information as is now stored at the Admiralty, and placing it in such a form as will render it still more easily accessible."

"Within the last few months," says the *Poll Mail Gazette*, "there has been an epidemic of gun bursting. First of all we had the Krupp naval gun, which burst on board ship; then, on the 18th of October, a 28-centimetre German breech loading gun at Wilhelmshaven, when, the men being all under cover, no damage appears to have done to life. Pieces of it weighing 2,000 pounds were, according to the *Madagascar Gazette*, thrown more than 100 yards. A little later in October a 6 inch English breech loader burst at Shoeburyness, again luckily without damage to life. The reason for its failure was found to be a flaw in the inner steel tube, which could not be seen till the burst took place. Austria, not to be left long behindhand, followed with the burst of a breech loading mortar at Fohnsdorf on the 7th of November. This time, unhappily, if the *Cologne Gazette* is accurate in its account, a captain was killed by a fragment of the gun and a lieutenant severely wounded. The French manage to keep their accidents very quietly from the public ear, but there is pretty good evidence that there has been at least one failure with their ordnance. With the exception of the two German guns, each burst represents a different method of manufacture. What an apple of discord for the artillery!"

ADMIRAL Sir Thomas Symonds, writing to the *United Service Gazette*, on the subject of the remarkable gun trials at Spezia, says: "It seems to me truly wonderful that nothing will awake us from apathy, although the French are preparing to mount in ships twelve 100 ton breech loading guns and the Italians sixteen—total twenty-eight—while we have four 80-ton muzzle loading guns afloat, and four ships preparing for sixteen 60 ton guns—total twenty guns—all inferior in every respect. No one understanding guns can for a moment believe that 60-ton guns are equal to 100 ton guns, mounted by the Italians and preparing by the French."

Sir Thomas Brassey, speaking for the British Admiralty at Birkenhead, last month, said: The Government had hitherto steadily resisted the demand for increased dimensions, which was greatly stimulated by a spirit of rivalry with the Italian constructors. They were not insensible to the advantages of superiority in speed, in guns, and in armor, but they objected to the concentration of the whole power of the Navy in a few colossal ships which could not by the utmost exaggerations of size and cost be made secure against the risks of navigation and battle. They had, therefore, thought it wise to rest content with the very considerable fighting qualities which the constructors had been able to give us in the *Collingwood*. The ships of this type were protected by 18 in. steel-faced armor. They carried four 60-ton guns in two barbette turrets, and a valuable light armament in a lofty main-deck battery. They would steam 15 knots, and with a forced draught 16 knots an hour. Their displacement was 9,600 tons, and the cost £540,000. The displacement of the *Invincible* was 11,800 tons, and the cost no less than £800,000; the speed was 18½ knots; the armor was 24 in., and the armament included four 80-ton guns. But these advantages over the *Hodson* and *Collingwood* seemed dearly purchased by the sacrifice of numbers. With an equal expenditure five *Rodneys* could be fitted against three *Invincibles*. They had already laid down four vessels of the *Collingwood* type, and had pursued a similar policy in the construction of the unarmored vessels. The Admiralty had recognized the necessity of adding fast ships to the fleet, and had laid down five 16 knot ships of the *Leander* type; but had not thought it wise to repeat the *Iris* type, believing that a gain of two knots in speed was too dearly purchased by an increase in cost from £160,000 to £214,000. In addition to the *Leander*, two ironclads had been laid down which would have an equal speed, and would be able to combine with the protection of commerce a great superiority in fighting power. For the notice of the sea the Admiralty had accepted a type of which no less than seven were now building, having a displacement of 1,450 tons. The Government preferred these vessels to the larger types which were lately in vogue. As cruisers under canvas the smaller vessels would have a great advantage. Their speed under steam was 11 knots as against 13, but 13 knots were insufficient for the defence of commerce and for the ordinary duties of the fleet an advantage of two knots in speed seemed too dearly purchased by the increase of cost from £62,000 in the *Heroine* to £108,000 in the *Cordelia*.

The Prussian headquarters staff has just published another volume of the official history of the war of 1870. In it are some very interesting particulars relating to the German army which may, of course, be relied upon. In August, 1870, there were 780,723 soldiers in France and 400,000 remaining in Germany. At the conclusion of the war there were no less than 936,918 Germans in France, 185,000 of whom were outside Paris. The number of battles and combats in which at least 100 Germans were engaged was 766; in these 40,862 men were killed, or died of their wounds, and 88,888 wounded. At the battle of Gravelotte the German loss was 10,159; at Metz-le-Tour, 15,790; at Wörth, 10,642; at Sedan, 9,944; the siege of Paris, 12,500; and that

of Metz, 5,571. The total number of French prisoners interned in Germany was 331,341, and 107 flags, 7,441 cannon, and 855,000 rifles were also captured. The sanitary service was carried on by 46,955 persons, of whom 7,022 were doctors; of the latter 30 were killed and 51 wounded. The total number of sick and wounded who were tended in the ambulances was 295,644. The 44 military post-offices established in France distributed 103,000,000 of letters and newspapers to the troops, as well as 67,000,000 parcels. The number of cannon cartridges expended was 162,692, and 30,000,000 rifle cartridges. The greatest expenditure of the latter was at Metz-le-Tour, where 25 battalions used 720,000 cartridges.

The *London Figaro*, of Dec. 23, says: "The Office of Works is busily though quietly completing the preliminary arrangements for the erection of a new War Office and Admiralty in Whitehall. Last week, I understand, it purchased the temporary structure at the back of the house in Spring Gardens lately occupied during the building of their bank by Messrs. Drummond. This new purchase with the house behind it will serve to afford office room to one of the departments, probably the Pay Office, which will be necessarily ousted from its present quarters during the building of the new offices."

"CAPT. Carter, R. N., flag-captain to Admiral Sir W. H. Hewitt, K. C. B.," says the *London Figaro*, "has commenced his *regime* on board the *Adelaide* with a very popular concession. The flag-gates at the various ports, it should be known, are also 'receiving' ships—i. e., men who have finished their leave after return from foreign service go on board them awaiting other appointments. As these men have no work to do while they are supernumeraries, the time, as may readily be believed, hangs heavily on their hands. Capt. Carter, desirous of relieving the monotony of their life, has ordered that an extra quarter of an hour be given each day for smoking."

A CODE of rules for the regulation of the admission of foreign officers to the government military establishments has been received at Chatham from the British War Office, and will be strictly acted upon. The rules, it is directed, are to be observed in reference to the admission of foreign naval and military attaches and officers, having special permission, to fortresses, the government manufacturing departments, and other establishments under the War Department.

"I was told a good story the other day of the way the naval authorities imagine they have got to windward of the captain of the *Cockatrice*," says the *Constantinople* correspondent of the *London Figaro*. "That little vessel is now lying alongside the dock-yard, having a fore-castle put upon her in order to increase her seaworthiness and provide accommodation for her crew in the hot season. She carries a Galleon gun on each side of her bridge, and the carriage of one of these having been slightly injured in passing between the bridges, Capt. Grenfell applied to the dock-yard authorities to have it repaired. They readily enough complied with the request, for a party of men walked off with the article the very next morning. This, however, was over a month ago, and yet the carriage has not turned up, the fact being, as was casually discovered, that it is serving as a model for the manufacture of what is necessary for mounting the Nordenfildt guns on board the Ottoman vessels, the Turks in their economy not having included carriages in their contract with Mr. Roe. The amusing feature of the affair is that the carriages of the *Cockatrice*'s Galleons are condemned articles, as the Turks would have been informed had they only chosen to mention their wish to use one of them as a model. The system of mounting adopted was found by practical experience to be quite unsuited for sea service, and all the carriages on this plan are being returned into store as fast as new ones can be supplied."

The profits realized by the Grouse Works (MM. Schneider and Co.), in 1881-2, are officially returned at £370,840. The value of the work turned out during the year was £2,283,205. The prospects of the current financial year are considered good.

In opening the winter semester lately, the rector of the University of Leipzig mentioned that of 12 students who had died during last session, only four succumbed to natural causes. One fell in a duel; and six had committed suicide. This would bear out the statement of a recent compiler of social statistics, that the kingdom of Saxony is "the Chimborazo of suicide." In Saxony the number of those who take their own lives is absolutely greater than that of any other country in Europe. Its population is certainly denser; but no one has yet given anything like a plausible complete explanation of this suicidal mania. Attention was also lately called to the increasing number of suicides in the German army, especially in the higher ranks.

New plans issued by the Channel Tunnel companies contain some important alterations and improvements in the way of defensibility to meet the requirements of the objections or recommendations of the Channel Tunnel Commissioners. *La Nature* (Paris Dec. 9) contains a reproduction of a plan, published in June, 1883, and now in the *Collection des Extraits*; in the *Bibliothèque Nationale*. It represents various suggestions for the invasion of England. In the foreground is shown a submarine tunnel, with French troops marching through it. It is thus clear that the idea of the Channel Tunnel is considerably older than has been believed, although in this case it was apparently only worked out as being equally practicable, with the transport of troops by balloons, men sailing, hung from the tails of kites, etc.

Petty defalcations discovered in some of the ships of the British navy induced the conception of a plan for forming a detective branch of the service, but the idea has now been abandoned. In lieu of such a detectable system, as *Broad Arrow* rightly calls it, a better system of paying accounts is to be instituted. The defalcations about which there has been so much talk, adds our contemporary, were due to a bad method of accounts, "and to a notion which has existed among all classes of public servants—everywhere—that the public purse is open to anybody clever enough to put his hand in it without being seen. That idea has not been confined to the Royal Navy. Many a man who has served the country faithfully in every other respect has stumbled in this one particular, and that too without any notion in his own mind that he was doing wrong. What everybody did could scarcely be very sinful, if sinful at all. Such was the reasoning with these who gave the matter a second thought, which probably few ever did. Let it now be clearly realized that man who robs everybody is as great a sinner as he who picks his neighbor's pocket—and the evil will soon cease. To create a detective branch would simply have demoralized the Navy, for only treat a man a rogue and you go a long way towards making him one. But to remove temptation and the opportunity of wrong doing with impunity is a duty incumbent upon all sections of the community, and one from which no public department can be exonerated. In fulfilling that duty their lordships will probably hear no more of the petty transactions."

THE STATE TROOPS.

RIFLE PRACTICE.

THE REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF RIFLE PRACTICE, NEW YORK.

From an advance copy of this report we give the following synopsis:

Rifle practice for the current year has been carried forward with satisfactory results. The State figure of merit has been increased from 20.42 to 47.69; the number of marksmen from 2,094 to 2,652, and the number who had no practice has been reduced from 6,294 to 4,300. Much interest in the matter is manifested by both officers and men. After giving the tables showing the standing of the different organizations (already published in the *Journal*), and the names of the officers comprising the department of rifle practice, nearly all of the latter, the report states, have performed conscientiously and to the best satisfaction of the General Inspector of Rifle Practice, Colonel Joseph G. Story is mentioned in the following favorable terms:

"I take much pride in referring to the fact that by the energetic efforts of Colonel Story and his assistants, the General Order exhibiting the proficiency of organizations and the names of marksmen has been published, and all marksmen's decorations have been issued before the close of the year, and at least two months earlier than usual, so that I am enabled to turn over the office to my successor without any unfinished work pertaining to the present administration."

The principles under which rifle practice has been conducted by its present administration are as follows:

1. It is to be considered a part of the regular drill, and not a diversion.
2. A very moderate amount of "required" duty, but great strictness in exacting it.
3. A preference for the practical work likely to be required in actual service, leaving purely expert practice to volunteer.
4. Following up individual exercise with general firings in ranks.
5. Strict preservation of discipline as paramount to all other military duty.

The mode of classification is then demonstrated, and it is stated that although no official recognition is given for firing at longer ranges than 500 yards, yet honorable mention is made of those within the class of marksmen who have made scores of 40 and over out of a possible 50 as sharpshooters.

Volley and fire firing, the natural sequence of individual practice, was introduced in 1880, and has been successfully continued. While it is safe to say that no body of troops who are not accustomed to actual firing and to firing at a mark can present an effective front to a resolute enemy, it may be added that individual practice alone will not produce the highest efficiency, and that firing in ranks is the most important and practical portion of rifle practice drill. In this practice commissioned officers and sergeants do not shoot, but the result, of course, greatly depends upon their efficiency and coolness. The distance of firing in ranks was reduced to 100 yards on account of wild shots which made the rear of the battalions at Creedmoor unsafe, it being maintained that all the advantages of the practice could be secured at short range.

Armory practice is recommended as the preparatory work for field practice, and the best record in the field is made by organizations which are most faithful to this preparatory work. The reports of the 13th regiment and of the 2d separate company in this respect are considered especially creditable.

Field practice was divided in first and second general practice and practice in matches.

At the first every member of the Guard was required to be present under penalty of being fined by Court-martial. The mornings of these days were devoted to individual firing, the afternoon to firing in ranks at the word of command. Second practice was voluntary, and no expense was attached to the 500 yds. Practice in matches with privilege of qualification as marksmen, was allowed to facilitate private exercise and for the encouragement of the rifle associations, which control several of the ranges and derive a portion of their support from entrance fees of competitors. It does not exempt those who perform it from the penalty for absence from general practice, in which the discipline and the firing in ranks are features.

The report recommends that in the computation for firing hereafter any company which does not parade a fair proportion of its men for file and volley firing be ruled out and that its standing be based on individual practice.

Under the head of "Rifle Practice in Camp" the following remarks appear: "The military event of the year was the encampment at Peekskill. The rifle practice there performed has been made the subject of a special report. In general I may repeat the opinion heretofore expressed, that it is difficult to get as good results during a week in camp, where all duties so seriously conflict, as from one or two days devoted exclusively to general practice. Nevertheless, in view of the obvious and great advantages of the encampment in other respects, I would not be in favor of making any further demands upon the time of the men for this purpose."

"It will be observed that most of the organizations which practiced at Peekskill improved their records of previous years, though some would not have done so but for subsequent voluntary practice at Creedmoor. The 23d regiment is deserving of special mention. This organization broke camp before the camp range was ready, and was therefore excused from duty altogether as a matter of obligation. Nevertheless, by hard voluntary work later in the season its members pushed the figure of merit to nearly the mark of former years and obtained fourth rank in the 84th."

After commenting upon the Champion, State, Interstate, etc., matches, and giving the names and scores of the winners, it proceeds to the International match, referring to the causes of the defeat as follows:

"The defeat of the team is attributed to the method of selection (by competition between a very limited number of volunteers), to hasty and inadequate preparation for the event itself, to the fact that 'military practice' in this country is confined to the short ranges, to the exclusion of the wind gauge, and to the inferiority of the present American arms and ammunition. It is just moreover to their gallant competitors to admit that the latter fairly won the victory by superior shooting."

"The effect of the International match, in which American riflemen were for the first time defeated by our transatlantic kinsmen, will be salutary in stimulating renewed interest in general practice. I am informed also that our rifle manufacturers are thoroughly aroused, and have already made important improvements, especially in ammunition."

A list of the ranges in the State, followed by a table showing the appropriations for each since the introduction of rifle practice, is next given, which we do not print in full, but give the aggregate amounts, which are as follows:

Prior to 1872, \$99,924; 1872, \$5,890. Aggregate, \$105,814. The allowance of ammunition was 30 rounds for each member of the Guard; the actual number of rounds expended 308,000; cost of transportation of the Guard, \$1,794.62.

The total expense of the rifle department amounted to 14,521.43 as against \$3,993.53 in 1881, and \$18,580.35 in 1880. In estimating the cost of rifle practice to the 84th, the expenditures for ammunition and transportation of troops, which are made through the Ordnance Department, should be added to the foregoing totals as follows:

1879—Ammunition, transportation, and amount paid through rifle dept.	1880—	1881—	1882—
\$47,283 99	40,377 45	19,947 07	25,299 19

The increased expense for 1882 is found mainly in publication of G. O. 3 and 26 of 1882, purchase of decorations for part of 1881 and all for 1882; range in State camp, and increased subsidies and repairs to ranges.

Recommendations, etc.

1. That one of the seven parades required by law should be for rifle practice.
2. That the present State arm shall be changed for a good weapon of .45 calibre with bronzed barrel.

3. The appointment of a non-com. officer in each company, to discharge the duties and bear the name of sergeant instructor of rifle practice.

4. That inspectors of rifle practice should be paid their traveling expenses by the State.

5. The use of the regular arm, with cartridges lightly loaded, for armory practice.

6. That in team competitions the successful organization should be required to send a new or partly new team the following year.

7. The establishment of a skirisher's match under State supervision.

The following general remarks concluded the report: "Finally it gives me great pleasure to record the reaction visible in this year's practice from the apathy to which I was obliged to call attention in 1881.

"This is partly due to disbandments of less efficient companies and regiments and the compact reorganization of the rest. There is now some incentive to the men to work, and adequate authority and system at each headquarters to ensure that they work to some purpose.

"You will have observed the magnificent record of the 7th regiment, which with 537 marksmen and a figure of merit of 71.57 has excelled all previous experience. I call attention to this with much satisfaction, also to the extraordinary results obtained by companies H, C, B and F, 7th regiment; 3d and 9d Separate Companies; B, of the 74th regiment, and B, of the 12th regiment—all exceeding the highest score made by any company in 1881. I hardly need to add anything to emphasize the importance of this branch of the soldier's training, since it is now generally recognized. Notwithstanding the recent defeat of our hastily selected and ill-equipped international team we have not yet lost the prestige of repeated victories at an earlier period in which a large proportion of the contestants were American National Guardsmen. This defeat with its wholesome mortification will arouse new ambition and a mighty purpose to retrieve our laurels. New York State, I think, can be depended upon to do her full share of this service."

The Report of the Adjutant Gen. of the State of New York will be found on another page

The Council of the National Rifle Association of Great Britain has decided to do away with the shooting at 1,000 yards for the Queen's Prize, in consequence of the alleged uncertainty of the Martini-Henry rifle at that distance, so that for the future the contest between the sixty will be fired at 800 and 900 yards.

THIRTY-THIRD NEW YORK.—Col. Rodney C. Ward.—This organization assembled at its armory, Jan. 10, for the presentation of marksmen's badges, and made its final parade in the gray dress uniform. The first formation was 9 companies, 16 solid files for review. Previous to the review Colonel Ward exercised the command for a few minutes in marching in column of fours, and in two or three battalion movements for steadiness. No mistakes of any consequence were made, yet the men were nervous, not keeping proper distance in column of fours, which seems to be a serious fault with this regiment, and clearly indicates a want of careful instruction on the part of company commanders. With the magnificent drill room, splendid material of the rank and file, and the well known qualifications of the officers generally, no reasonable excuse can be offered for the lack of steadiness and accuracy in marching in column of fours. The captains should spend more time in essential details.

General Robbins, Inspector-General of Rifle Practice, N. Y., accompanied by Col. Bodine, his assistant, received the review, which was well performed, considering the limited space, although the steps seemed hurried—about 115 to the minute. The officers all saluted, but they could improve much in the salute; and right here it seems rather strange that officers generally throughout the National Guard are so far behind the enlisted men in the use of their particular arms—the regulation sword. If commissioned officers would practice more in learning how to salute, and how to handle their weapons properly, so many poor or indifferent salutes would not be seen.

Immediately after the review the regiment was reformed for dress parade. Lieut.-Col. J. B. Frothingham in command, all the odd files except recruits falling in, occupying nearly the entire four sides of the armory. We should judge there were from 550 to 600 rank and file in line. This ceremony was well performed—men remarkably steady—clearly indicating the benefits from previous movements. At the end of the troop, the band played "An'd Lang Syne," evidently intending to remind the 23d not to forget the "Old Gray."

At the close of the dress parade, the marksmen (142) were called to the front, and formed in six lines, dressed on the general guides and marksmen respectively. General Robbins then came forward, and made a suitable address to the successful marksmen, himself decorating nearly all of them. Lieut. Col. Frothingham received the grand gold medal for highest score in the regimental team of 1882; 2d Lieut. (elect) Shepherd, Company D, the gold medal for the highest aggregate score in all the team matches. The arrangements for decorating the successful marksmen were quite imposing. Other organizations should endeavor to imitate the 23d in this particular, as well as in other ceremonies, which in this regiment are always conducted with care and dignity—never hurried or slurred. Immediately after dress parade, dancing followed, which was evidently enjoyed by the large number of the fair sex present.

In conclusion, we would remind the officers of the 23d that there is room for improvement, and a big "shaking up" would do no harm. Steadiness in marching, correct distances, and covering in column of fours, more watchfulness on the part of file closers, greater care in the "setting up," and general instructions in detail at company drills, seem at present necessary in this command.

President Stoddard, of the Veteran Association, presented to Company B, Capt. Barrington, three very beautiful pictures, for recruiting the largest number of men, according to its strength, Jan. 1, 1882.

SEVENTY-FIRST NEW YORK.—Colonel Richard Vose.—Company drills in this regiment have been suspended, and the command directed to assemble in fatigue uniform, black belts, commencing Monday, Jan. 15, for subdivision drills, as follows: Companies G, H and I, on Monday evenings; D, F and K, on Wednesday evenings; A, B and C, on Friday evenings. At each three quarters of an hour will be devoted to drill by company, and one hour to drill by subdivision. The colonel will command on Mondays, the lieutenant colonel on Wednesdays, and the major on Fridays.

On Monday evening, Jan. 22, at 8 o'clock, dress parade and presentation of the recruiting medal, designated in G. O. 11, Series 1882.

The colonel, in G. O. No. 1, congratulates Surgeon Joseph D. Bryant upon his appointment as Surgeon General, but regrets his loss to the regiment.

NINTH NEW YORK.—Col. W. Seward, Jr.—This regiment has been ordered for battalion drill in fatigue uniform as follows: Right wing, on Fridays, Jan. 12, 19, and 26. Left wing, Tuesdays, Jan. 16 and 23.

THIRTY-SECOND NEW YORK.—Col. Josiah Porter.—The regiment will assemble for battalion drill as follows: Cos. C, D, G, I, and K, Thursday, Jan. 11 and 25; A, B, E, F, and H, Thursday, Jan. 18 and Feb. 1, at 8 o'clock p. m.

All the sergeants will assemble in civilian dress in the officers' room for theoretical instruction, Wednesday, Jan. 17 and 31, at 8 o'clock p. m. The class will be open to any corporals who desire to attend.

Capt. DeMott, Lieut. Cortelyou and Lieut. Smith have been appointed a Board for the examination of non-com. officers, to meet on the 3d Wednesday of each month.

ELEVENTH NEW YORK.—Col. F. E. Unbekant.—Battalion drills have been ordered as follows: The several companies of this command are hereby ordered to assemble at the regimental armory, in fatigue uniform, armed and equipped, for drill and instruction, as follows: Companies C, D, G and H, on Tuesdays, the 16th, 23d and 30th of January, and the 6th of February, and A, B, F, I and K, on Thursdays, the 18th and 25th of January, and the 1st and 8th of February. Assembly at 7.45 p. m. Capt. A. Laforet and Lieut. Rehberger, Berth and Schneider have been discharged. The regiment, and especially Companies A and C, sustain an almost irreparable loss by the resignation of Capt. Laforet and Lieut. Rehberger; Capt. Laforet, a thorough soldier, ready at all times to perform every duty assigned to him cheerfully and intelligently, never absent, leaves a very high record with this regiment and his comrades. The colonel commanding desires to express his profound regret at the loss of both officers named, and wishes them success in their future undertakings.

THIRTEENTH NEW YORK.—Col. D. E. Austen.—This regiment will assemble for drill and instruction, in fatigue uniform, white cross belts and gloves, as follows: Right wing, Companies G, E, D, F and K, Monday, January 22; left wing, Companies H, C, I, A and B, Thursday, January 25; the regiment (all companies), Monday, January 29, and Friday, February 2. Assembly will be sounded on each evening, at 8 o'clock. Parade at the armory, in dress uniform, for review by Gen. Fitzhugh Lee, of Virginia, on Wednesday, February 7. Assembly at 8.15 p. m. The Veteran Association and Cadet company are invited to parade on this occasion.

NEW YORK.—The re-appointment of Gen. D. D. Wylie will be regarded as one of the most judicious staff selections of the new Governor. During his administration of the ordinance affairs of the State the necessities of the militia have been generously considered, while a pronounced economy has still characterized his control of arsenals and war materials. The General received his new commission on Wednesday, and it may be remembered as an historical fact that it is the first official document bearing the impress of the great seal of the State, as it has been newly cut.

Military championship games will be held at the 13th regiment armory, corner Flatbush avenue and Hanson Place, Brooklyn, N. Y., under the auspices of Co. F, on Tuesday, Jan. 30, commencing promptly at 7.30 p. m. There will be dancing after the games. The following events are open to all amateur National Guardsmen: Fifty yard dash, 220 yard dash, 220 yard hurdle, one mile and three mile walk, one-quarter mile run, one-half mile run, one mile run, five mile run, pole vault, running high jump, tug of war—four men, 600 lbs.—any belt. Two gold and a silver medal in each event, excepting for tug of war, for which gold medals will be given to winning team. Three special medals will be given for "best general athlete." An entrance fee of 50 cents per man must accompany each entry; or, \$4 for them all (exclusive of tug), taken in one name. Entries close Jan. 23, and must be sent to E. J. Anderson, Co. F, 13th regiment armory. The right to reject any entry is reserved. The games are approved by N. A. A. These games will undoubtedly be very interesting. The 13th have quite an array of athletes, some of whom already hold championships, and as the games are also open to any other amateur militiaman the competitions will be of the best.

The staff of Governor Cleveland have been formally announced in G. O. No. 1, dated January 1, 1883.

Mr. E. B. Ten Broeck, at present chief clerk in the Adjutant-General's Office at Albany, is spoken of as the next assistant adjutant-general.

Inspector-General Briggs has not yet appointed his assistant, and, it is reported, does not intend to do so for the present.

General C. F. Robbins, Inspector-General of Rifle Practice, has appointed Col. John Bodine his assistant.

Asst. Surgeon Cyrus Edson, 12th regiment, has been appointed surgeon on the staff of Major-General Shaler, commanding 1st Division.

Captain G. A. Hussey, 9th regiment, has been transferred from Company I to Company G, with rank from date of his election in Company I.

Company D, 47th regiment (Bradley Greys), will celebrate its 21st anniversary by a drill and reception on Tuesday evening, January 23, for which we have received invitations.

The Cadet company of the 13th regiment give their first reception Saturday night, January 13, preceded by the regular drill and instruction.

The following elections took place in Co. D, 22d regiment: 2d Lieut. W. H. Cortelyou, to be 1st lieutenant, and 1st Sergt. F. W. Seydel, to be 2d lieutenant.

The following is the programme of the athletic entertainment in the 8th regiment armory on January 31: 1. One mile run, club only; 2. Running high jump, regiment; 3. 200 yard dash, club only; 4. Standing broad jump, regiment; 5. 150 yard hurdle race, club only; 6. Half mile "heel and toe" walk, club only; 7. 150 yard sack race, regiment; 8. Musical exercises, 9 and 11 years; 9. Tug of war, 4 men light weights, 3 boats, best 2 out of 3, club only; 10. Two mile running race, club only; 11. Tug of war, 6 men, middle weights, right and left wings, 150 to 175 lbs.; 12. Expert tumbler; 13. Tug of war, 4 men, heavy weights, bet. N. C. 8 and club, from 175 lbs. and over; 14. Three legged race, 2 laps, regiment.

At a meeting of Co. B, 12th regiment, N. G. S. N. Y., held at their armory on Jan. 5, 1883, the following civil officers were elected: President, Capt. Chas. S. Burns; Vice President, Geo. Blockman; Recording Secretary, Aug. Kingland; Financial Secretary, Chas. J. Leach; Treasurer, Uriah E. Wood.

A dramatic entertainment, complimentary to Co. E, 23d regt., N. G. S. N. Y., will be given at the Brooklyn Athenaeum on Friday evening, Jan. 26, 1883.

The Seventh Regiment ball at their Armory on Thursday evening was, of course, a very brilliant affair.

Gen. Briggs will review the cadets of the 13th regiment, on Saturday evening.

Capt. Connell, Co. "G," and Lieut. A. Allen, Jr., Co. "A," 23d regiment, have resigned.

We have received an invitation to the concert and reception of the 13th regiment Bugle and Drum Corps, on Tuesday evening, Jan. 23.

The 14th regiment had a drill on Thursday, Jan. 12, and will have another on Jan. 17.

Col. Unbekant has recovered from his illness and taken command of his regiment.

THE POLICY FOR THE NATIONAL GUARD.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

In your number of Jan. 6, 1883, you call attention to the report of the Inspector-General of the State of New York in regard to the lack of instruction in skirishing as inexcusable in the separate companies located in the rural districts. The suitable places for instruction are doubtless available for almost all the separate companies, but the trouble is not there, but in the time required. Nearly every member of our company has a business which he cannot neglect during the daytime, and others are in the employ of men who, should they be required to leave their work during business hours, would be very likely to send them a blue envelope on their return. We are required to make a certain number of parades during the year, and when you ask more of the rank and file you are apt to receive the information that "Mr. Doe will not allow me to turn out. If I do, he will find some one to take my place." Now, where is the company commander who would like to force a man under such circumstances? The companies have weekly drills during the drill season, and

those drills are pretty well attended and last from one to one half to two hours. The company is dismissed, and you do not see them again for a week. We give them instruction in school of the soldier, company, and guard mounting, duties of sentinels, etc. A few instructions in skirishing are given occasionally, but it is almost useless to undertake them in the limited space of an armory drill floor.

What we want is a law compelling our merchants, manufacturers, and all persons and stock companies, especially railroad companies, to furnish the material for the military organization of the State, according to the number of men in their employ, as in case of riots it is the property of these men that must be protected more than any other; and they should furnish good material (and none but good), and keep the ranks of the Guard full. We want no exemption in the new code. Pay the Guard a certain amount per year, and every man in the Guard will then be served alike. Now there are thousands of the best material in the Guard that exemption would not benefit.

You complain that there is a lack of good experienced officers in the National Guard. What inducement does the State offer for them to enter the State service? Is it the privilege of purchasing their own uniform at an expense of \$125, and assuming the care and responsibility of a company, besides being held to a strict account for the arms, clothing, etc., by the State? In addition an officer must, if necessary, neglect his private business and attend to making his reports, and having them in "on time," or suffer the consequences; for all of which he receives nothing.

I have heard it remarked by staff officers of the Governor not the present, that officers should serve for the honor of being officers in the militia: they were serving for the honor of receiving from \$2,500 to \$3,500 per year.

My policy would be, pay the officers and men and then hold them to a strict account.

A GUARDSMAN.

Oswego, N. Y., Jan. 9, 1883.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Colonel H. M. Boles, of the 13th regiment, N. G. of Pennsylvania, has published in general orders, the result of rifle practice in the regiment during the past season. He says: The number of qualified marksmen is larger by thirty men than last year, but the number qualifying above centres is eight less, being thirty. We were again distinguished as the only regiment from Pennsylvania sending a team to Creedmoor, by furnishing ten of the twelve members of the State team, which won the "Hilton Trophy," in the international match, and the "Soldier of Marathon" in the inter State match; by the honorable position taken by Captain Atkinson, in the long range match with the British Volunteers, and by the selection of our team as guard of honor to the British Team at the range.

Our regimental team this year won the greatly coveted ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL Cup upon a score which has only once been exceeded.

At Camp Reynolds, Lewisburg, Pa., the 13th regt. were victorious in the competition for the "Division prize" offered by the Division staff to the best team of eight from any regiment in the N. G. P., by a score of 210.

The report of Captain George L. Breck, regimental inspector of rifle practice, shows that 259 officers and men of the regiment are qualified to wear marksmen's badges, that number having qualified under his direction during the season of 1882, the number in each company being as follows:

Co. A, 68; Co. B, 21; Co. C, 37; Co. D, 38; Co. E, 35; Co. F, 17; Co. G, 14; Co. H, 20; field and staff, 9. Total, 259.

The "Colonel's Crack Shot Badges" are annually awarded to that member of the field and staff and of each company who makes the highest score in qualifying as marksman. The scores winning this year were from 38, made by Private Albert Miller, of Co. G, to that of 47, made by Private Robert McMillan, of Co. A. Private McMillan having made the highest score in the regiment, was also awarded the gold-handled cane offered by the Binghamton, N. Y., City Guards. The Citizen's Trophy, competed for monthly, between company teams of five, was awarded for the second year to Co. D. The Co. D Trophy, offered by Co. D to teams of seven, and open only to members who had never shot in a team match of any kind during their enlistment, prior to the first match for this prize, was awarded to Co. A, they having won it three times on the following scores: June 3, 348; September 2, 337; November 25, 361; distance, 200 and 500 yards. Under the conditions of the match this is now the absolute property of Company A.

The presentation of a set of colors by the 22d regiment, N. G. N. Y., to the 1st regiment of Pennsylvania, took place at the Rink Building, 23d and Chestnut, last week. The building was filled to repletion with friends of the 1st. The speeches and a dress parade filled in most of the time, from 8.30 to 10 o'clock. The dress parade was marred by want of room.

Col. Presley N. Guthrie, of the 18th regiment, of Pittsburgh, Pa., has been officially notified of his appointment to the position of Adjutant General by Governor elect Pattison. Col. Guthrie is the senior Colonel in the National Guard of Pennsylvania, and will bring to the administration of the office an experience of twenty-nine years in the State service and National service during the rebellion. This should qualify him to fill the position, not only with credit to himself, but to handle the Guard with ability. Though his name has been frequently mentioned in connection with the office, the appointment is nevertheless a surprise to very many, though a certain few were informed but a short time after the election that Mr. Pattison had made him his choice. Mr. Pattison is credited with saying shortly after his election that in making his military appointments he would respect the wishes of the members of the Guard. Yet his chief appointment had already virtually been made. The higher officers of the service (and some of them, we have no doubt, were aware of the tender to Col. Guthrie), tried to secure, if possible, the retention of Adj. Gen. Latta. Col. Guthrie, therefore, will enter upon his duties with some feeling against him, but he will gain the good will and respect of the Guard to the extent that he is successful in administering the office.

There is no telling who is Governor until after an election, and there is no telling who Mr. Pattison will select as the remainder of his staff until he himself announces it, which we suppose, will not be until after the inauguration. Rumors have it, however, that a member at present on the staff of Governor Hoyt will be retained. Of course, new names are also mentioned. As Governor's staffs get they are not unrequited more for show than use. There are some excellent officers on the staff of Governor Hoyt, and some who for the good of the Guard were better off. Since so much attention has been drawn to the National Guard of Pennsylvania within a year or two past it was hoped that Mr. Pattison, though he has little or no military experience, would make such selections as would not only reflect honor upon the service, but tend still further to its improvement. Some of the names mentioned give no assurance of this. Possibly they will not turn out to be the appointees, or possibly we may be wrong in our judgment; if so, and they are appointed, then they will have it in their power to prove the latter and to show by their works what is in them.

OHIO.

The Adjutant General's report, which has been submitted to the Governor, show that at the close of the last fiscal year the O. N. G. consisted of 93 companies of Infantry, 2 troops of Cavalry and 9 batteries of Artillery, of which latter 5 were organized on a 4-gun and 4 on a 2-gun basis. But few changes have been made since the last report. 16 companies and 3 batteries were disbanded during the year. 4 companies of Infantry were accepted and mustered into service. The present force consists of 83 companies of Infantry, 1 troop of Cavalry and 6 batteries of Artillery. The 1st regiment has 7 companies, the 3d 6, the 4th 6, 5th 5, 6th 9, 7th 5, 8th 6, 9th battalion 2, 11th regiment 5, 13th 4, 14th 9, 16th 9, 17th 7, unattached, 2 companies.

The summer element has been eliminated, and the O. N. G. of to-day is composed almost exclusively of well-behaved, sober and reputable young men; men who take pride in performing their respective duties in a becoming and soldierly manner, creditable alike to themselves and the State.

The total balance on account of all transactions in the Adjutant General's Office during the year ending Nov. 15, 1881, was \$23,696.59; appropriated, \$129,090; expenditures, \$107,162.35; balance on hand Nov. 15, 1881, \$45,624.40.

Captain J. C. Ewart has been elected captain of the 6th Ohio Battery at Akron. Over one-third of its members have been discharged on account of expiration of enlistment and "good of the

service." While outwardly everything was in good shape, destructive elements at work inside came near destroying the organization. A complete overhauling is setting matters in better shape. The first inspection under the new order of things took place January 8. Thirty men were in line. The total strength of the battery is 48. Nearly all the non-commissioned officers are vacant, and it is the intention to fill them on the competitive examination plan.

INDIANA.

A despatch from Indianapolis says: "Indiana on a military footing seems to be determined upon. For the first year after Gov. Porter came into office his aim seemed to be the development of the yam and the yellow pumpkin, but later on the martial ardor, which should invest the commander-in-chief of the land and naval forces of the State, and now we are enjoying a special boom in that direction. Colonels and captains and majors are being commissioned, and all kinds of staff officers and doctors are receiving commissions. A costly armory is the latest developed want, and it is being advocated by the militia officers."

FANCY MOVEMENTS.—A correspondent writes to us as follows:

The utter fatality, fancifulness and old fogeyism of the manual wheelings, etc., of our tactics ought to be pointed out by some efficient and aspiring young officer of the Guard. The childish game of "Simon says wiggle waggle," and "Simon says thumbs up," might be as usefully adopted for the military instruction of our big breeched and short waisted recruits as the major part of the manual. If any in authority believe that it may yet appeal to the tender mercies of some host of infuriated European enemies to see our serried ranks enduring the torture of "reverse arms" or coming from the "support" to "right

shoulder arms" without too evident regard to the nineteenth part of a minute, why, of course, such young and hopeful authority can still preserve such effete and ludicrous pretence at military instruction, and the soldiers can remain tied to the barrack yard instead of springing to the military exercises and seeking the hills and range for profitable instruction.

Modern tactics ought surely to illustrate the idea that each soldier should reach his place in the shortest and easiest way, and then hold it wisely and well. Is not a soldier worthless and slow in a wheel?

Our tactics should preclude the possibility of any officer or organization receiving praise for performances that are useless, or, worse than useless in every possible contingency of battle.

The season is ripe for change. Is there any youngster who can originate it? The National Guard established rifle practice. Can it not put practical, instead of fancy tests, to the tactics?

Sir J. E. Commerell, K. C. B., who succeeded Admiral Sir F. L. McClintock as commander-in-chief of the North American and West India station, has gone from Antigua, where the relief took place, to Barbadoes, in the *Northampton*, on a visit in connection with the loss of a mail steamer, and will proceed thence in a few days for Jamaica. Admiral Commerell is not expected in Bermuda until toward the end of March.

The *Deutsche Militair Zeitung* announces that the officers of the reserve of the Rhenish provinces decided at a recent banquet to drink more French champagne. It having been observed that at that national banquet they had drunk it, and more than was reasonable, they replied, "It was for the last time."

The *Golos* informs us that shorthand writing is going to be introduced as a compulsory subject into all the military schools and pro-gymnasias, grammar schools, and other middle-class educational establishments in Russia.

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MARRIED.

RODGERS-CAMERON.—At the residence of the bride's father, Washington, D. C., January 11, Lieutenant ALEXANDER RODGERS, 4th U. S. Cavalry, to Miss VIRGINIA CAMERON, daughter of Senator Cameron.

ROSELL-ELLIS.—At Christ's Church, Newbern, N. C., on December 28, 1882, by the Rev. Mr. Shields, JEANIE GRAHAM ELLIS, to Lieut. W. T. ROSELL, Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army.

DIELMAN-BENHAM.—At 104 East 35th Street, New York City, Mr. FREDERICK DIELMAN to LILLIA, daughter of General H. W. Benham, U. S. Army.

NEWMAN-GIBSON.—In Boston, Jan. 3, by the Rev. Mr. Smyth, B. F. NEWMAN, of New York City, to CARIE E. GIBSON, daughter of Col. Gibson, U. S. A.

FRANKLIN-SANDS.—On Jan. 10, 1883, at the residence of the bride's parents in Washington, D. C., by the Rev. Dr. Chappelle, Commodore S. R. FRANKLIN, U. S. Navy, to MARION S. DUTTON, daughter of Rear-Admiral B. F. Sands, U. S. Navy.

BIRTH.

OLMSTED.—At Fort Reno, I. T., December 25, 1882, to the wife of 1st Lieutenant J. A. Olmsted, 9th Cavalry, a son.

DIED.

ANDERSON.—At Savannah, Ga., Jan. 6, EDWARD C. ANDERSON, formerly Lieutenant U. S. Navy.

CLARKSON.—At Nice, France, Jan. 8, Lieutenant SAMUEL F. CLARKSON, U. S. Navy.

PURSE.—At Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 30, Passed Assistant Engineer WILSON K. PURSE, U. S. Navy, retired.

BATTERLEE.—At New York City, Jan. 6, MARY B., widow of the late R. S. BATTERLEE, M. D., Brevet Brigadier General U. S. Army.

WAGSTAFF.—At New York City, Jan. 8, EDWARD, son of the late Robert M. Wagstaff, U. S. Navy.

CALLENDER.—At Dayville, Ogle County, Illinois, December 18, Colonel FRANKLIN D. CALLENDER, U. S. Army, retired.

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BUNFORD'S (Phosphate), when fresh.....	75
HANFORD'S, when fresh.....	70
REDHEAD'S.....	65
CHARM (Alum Powder) *.....	60
AMAZON (Alum Powder) *.....	55
CLEVELAND'S (Short weight, 3/4 oz.).....	50
PIONEER (San Francisco).....	45
CZAR.....	40
DR. PRICE'S.....	35
SNOW FLAKE (Groff's, St. Paul).....	30
LEWIS'.....	25
CONGRESS.....	20
HECKER'S.....	15
GILLET'S.....	10
HANFORD'S, when not fresh.....	5
C. E. ANDREWS & CO. (Contains alum, Milwaukee) "Regal." *.....	2
BULK (Powder sold loose).....	1
BUNFORD'S, when not fresh.....	0.5

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"HENRY MORTON, Ph.D., President of Stevens Institute of Technology."

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"S. DANA HAYES, State Assayer, Mass."

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"JUAN H. WRIGHT, M.D., Analytical Chemists, formerly Wright & Merrell, St. Louis."

"ALBERT MERRELL, M.D.,

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* While the diagram shows some of the alum powders to be of a higher degree of strength than other powders ranked below them, it is not to be taken as indicating that they have any value. All alum powders, no matter how high their strength, are to be avoided as dangerous.

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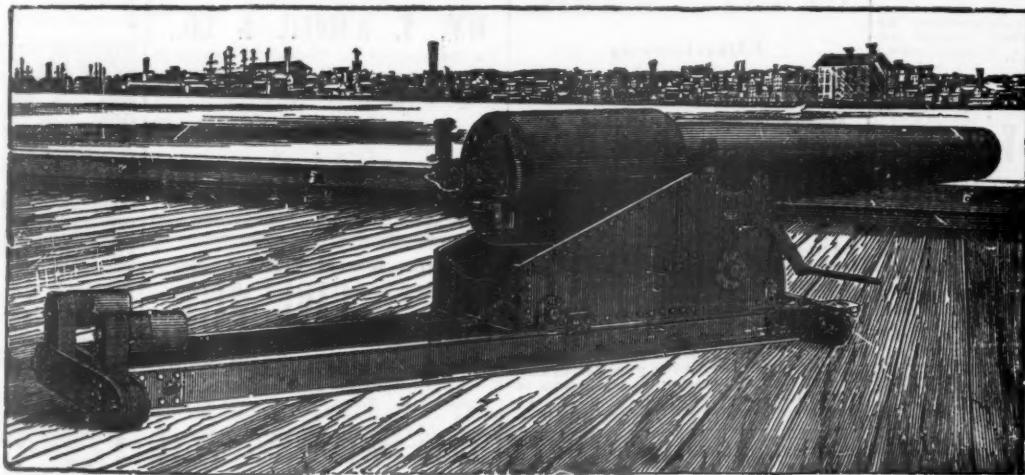
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